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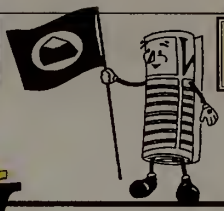

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Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

the Westerner

February 5, 1996

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First Week '96

By Victoria Amendola

WNEC–The first Week program is designed to give new Freshmen and transfer students an outlook as to what their future semester holds for them here at Western New England College. This program, that began on January 15, constructed by Dean Zern and assisted by his team of Peer Advisors, involves many activities to help students get acquainted to their new school.

Although the First Week program only lasted two days, much was accomplished. Registration, placement testing, and a film on what to expect from college life are just a few things that this program had to offer. And if that wasn't enough, the new students had an opportunity to check out a movie with their assigned Peer Advisor.

Peer Advisor Robyn Casey stated, "First Week is a very good program for new students; it gives them a chance to get acquainted with WNEC socially, as well as academically."

College is the time for educational and individual growth. Transfer student, Brian Amara stated, "The programs were a clear message that the faculty as well as your peers, care as much as you do about the quality of your education and want to see you succeed."

First Week has been a big success in accomplishing their goals in helping the new students. Dean Zern and his team of Peer Advisors have worked hard to make this happen. Best of luck to all the new students here at WNEC.

The U & Me Christmas Party was a total success! How can you tell? Look at all those smiles!

Cab Is Gettin' It Done!

By Paul Izzo and Ian Martin

Do you know all of the events that were sponsored by C.A.B. this year? Chances are that you most likely attended some of the many events that happened. Here is a rundown of just some of the events that have already occurred.

In cooperation with the Peer Advisors, we kicked the year off with First Week. Event highlights included the trip to High Meadows and a performance by Magician/Comedian John Hopkins. We ended the week with SeptemberFest. The event was held on the tundra, and was a huge success. The day started with mini-golf and a moonwalk. The band "Conehead Buddha" played throughout the afternoon, with a picnic dinner provided.

On September 23, CAB sponsored a drive-in movie. We showed the movie "Bad Boys" starring Martin Lawrence and Will Smith. Around one hundred people attended on this chilly evening. Hot chocolate was served, and everyone had a great time.

Parents/ Weekend was held October 20-22. Fridays kicked it off with Regency, a multi-talented band ranging in several different styles of music including acapella, R&B, and top 40. On Saturday following the football game, billiards trick-shot artist Dr. Cue entertained and amazed us for an afternoon of excitement. Saturday concluded with a murder mystery in the Healthful Living Center, followed by Casino Night.

The last week in October was Freak Week, dedicated to the spirit of Halloween. On Sunday night, we showed Wes Craven's "A New Nightmare" in Sleith 100. We then sponsored a trip to Spooky World, a horror theme park. On Tuesday, psychics told fortunes in the mall area. Ronny Romm gave a spell binding show of hypnosis and ESP. The week ended with a Freeze and Fright Night, which included pumpkin carving on the tundra.

The highlight of the semester was the fall concert. On November 29th, Better Than Ezra came to WNEC. The concert began with two solid performances from OAH-ved and Eve's Plum, and ended with an incredible show put on by Better Than Ezra. Over seven-hundred people attended this event.

On the first Wednesday of every month CAB sponsors Comedy Night. Attendance for each has been very positive. Comedians have included Wayne David Smith, Rob Magnotti, Chris McGuire and John Lampert.

What will the Campus Activities Board do for WNEC in the future?

The Campus Activities Board is responsible for bringing to you the majority of events on campus. CAB is already planning for next semester. The first Wednesday of every month will still be Comedy Night but we are also adding a Comedy Week in March. Watch for the Big Chill '96 and Spring Week. We also have a trip to the Whalers vs. Bruins on February 14. Lawrence Otis Graham, author of "Member of the Club" (soon to be a major motion picture starring Denzel Washington), will be giving a lecture on February 20th.

How can I get involved with the Campus Activities Board?

We need your help. The Campus Activities Board is constantly looking for new members to help with the planning and implementing of campus activities. Our meetings are at 3:30 pm on Tuesdays in Campus Center Conference Room 4. Committees are just forming. They include:

Comedy, Fridays, Pub Night, Winter Week, Spring Week, Fine Arts, Diversity, Lecture, Travel, Small Concerts, Film Series, Publicity, Recreation

The sky's the limit; with your help we can make the rest of this year a success.

Conn. Comm. of Corrections Speaks at W.N.E.C.

By Tony Kempesty

On Wednesday, January 24 at 7:00 pm in Sleith 100, John Armstrong, Commissioner of corrections for the state of Connecticut came to speak to students about his career and possible opportunities that the field of corrections has to offer. This event was sponsored by the Criminal Justice club of Western New England College.

Armstrong received his entire college education from the University of New Haven. When he was a student there, he received an associates degree in Law Enforcement, B.S. in Criminal Justice Administration, and a Master's degree in Criminal Justice institutions. During his educational career he completed the state police exam including the written, oral, and physical sections. However budgets put that to a halt and he was offered a job in corrections. His corrections career was entirely the result of good timing after college. Armstrong also stated that having a college degree was very helpful in the field of corrections.

Armstrong touched on the issue about how corrections is very different than police work. He stated "Corrections employees may deal with more felons than police officers in their entire career." That is quite a noticeable difference between the fields of corrections and police work.

During his longstanding career with corrections part of it was spent working in a youth rehab facility where the intention was rehabilitation. While working at the youth facility, he learned the aspects of counseling and operations. Upon reflecting back to that time, he mentioned about how he was still learning. He said "Always remain open to knowledge you can obtain through experiences." That advice will prove to be very valuable in the long run for all students in any major.

In one of his other jobs, he served as a warden. This was at the Jennings Road facility in Connecticut. It was called a minimax facility which was basically a small maximum security facility.

He also mentioned some statistics about the Connecticut Department of Corrections as well as the goals of the department. The Connecticut Department of Corrections currently has 7,000 authorized employment positions and out of this figure, 4,500 of those jobs are custody titles that work with

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No Longer Politics As Usual

By Greg Madrid

The Political Science Association, (formerly known as The Political Science Club) has shifted into high gear for the second semester. Association President, Shaun Phelan explains, "The first semester the club was bogged down by miscommunication. Over break we decided that we needed to re-evaluate our goals for the year. So we gave the club a complete overhaul." The club was re-organized from the top down, even the name got a face lift. The name was changed to represent the Association's new goals; increasing the academic success of its members.

With the new name comes a dramatically different calendar. In previous years the club focused only the Model UN, in New York City. The Association began this semester with planning more events on Campus, while maintaining the traditional ones. "We wanted to maintain the interest from our upperclassmen, while expanding our membership base campus wide" replied Phelan. Apparently the overhaul is working as the Association is boasting an increased membership and a packed second semester calendar. Activities this semester range from: lunches with leading civic leaders, and voter registration, to the very popular Model UN in New York City. Phelan said, "This is a great Association for students to show off their stuff, while learning some valuable skills." If you would like to be a part, please speak to Professor Donald Williams, the Association's Faculty Advisor.

PSA Calendar Of Events
Meetings are every Thursday in CC 7, @ 1:00pm

March 1, 1996	Voter Registration
March 28, 1996	High School Model UN
April 1-5, 1996	Model U.N., New York City

Luncheon Dates TBA throughout the semester

Cupola Update

By Kim Capasso

WNEC–What's going on with the yearbook? This is a question many seniors are asking as their last semester in College has come upon them.

Jodi Briggs, Editor of the Cupola, stated, "We have been working really hard to get the yearbook ready, and we have done very well."

Briggs wants to thank all those people who donated pictures to the yearbook. It gives the yearbook the opportunity to have a large variety of students pictured in it.

Ms. Briggs would like to extend her special thanks to Brenda Hounsell, Gregory Madrid, and Josepb Scaffido for all their time and effort in working on the yearbook.

Also. Ms. Briggs would like to remind the Western Nw England student body that the yearbooks have been paid for by the students activities fees at the college, so don't forget to pick up your yearbook in May!!

If you have any questions or would like to donate pictures to the yearbook, please contact Jodi Briggs in the Cupola office or Brenda Hounsell in Student Activities.

From The Driver's Seat . . .

First things first . . . I'd like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Ian Martin and I am the newly elected chairperson of the Campus Activities Board (or CAB for short). It is CAB's responsibility to plan activities for the WNEC community. We are doing many events this year and are pretty excited. You can read all about that in another article in today's Westerner.

I'd like to take this opportunity to address a question that's been asked by many members of the college community: "Is there going to be a Spring Concert?" Before CAB can make that decision there has to be three criteria met.

1.) Do we have the budget to put on a Spring Concert? It cost a lot to put on the Better Than Ezra show. If we go ahead with a Spring Concert, we would be looking for a band that would play a specific date (one that is set by us . . . not the band) and for a limited budget. These are strict guidelines; they really limit our choice of bands.

2.) Do we have the time and manpower to put on a Spring Concert? In order for a major concert to happen we need a minimum of eight weeks. This makes April the target date. The month of April has a limited amount of weekends (if a concert happens, it will be on a weekend) that can be utilized for the concert. The calendar is booked during that month, so we have to take this into consideration.

3.) Does The WNEC community want a Spring Concert under these guidelines? If we have a concert, it won't be a band with the status of Hootie and the Blowfish and certainly not that of Pearl Jam. But we could bring relatively smaller bands to campus, like Better Than Ezra. After considering this do you still want a concert, or should it be another form of entertainment? For the amount of money that a concert would cost, we could try to get a well known comedian. But we need your input.

On February 7th through the 10th we will have a table in the mall area during lunch. Stop by and fill out a poll. This will be your chance to have a say in what will happen this semester. If you'd like to get more involved with the concert or any other aspect of CAB, please come to our meetings at 3:30 pm on Tuesdays in CC4, or talk to any member of CAB. Let us know what you want, and we'll try to make it happen.

Thank you,

Ian Martin
Chairperson of CAB

WNEC Calendar of Events

February 1996

SPRING INTRAMURALS 1996

Sport	Deadline for Rosters	Starting Date
Sports Trivia Bowl	Tuesday, Feb. 6, 1996	TBA
Squash	Tuesday, Feb. 13, 1996	TBA

(Signups for 3 above tournaments in Intramural Office)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Women's Varsity Swim 1p.m. Men's Basketball 2p.m.
4	5	6	7	8 Men's Basketball 7:30p.m.	9	10 Varsity Hockey Home 4:45p.m. Varsity Wrestling 2p.m.
11	12	13 Men's Basketball 7:30p.m.	14 Health Fair	15 Closing In-progress Grades 100-Level Women's Basketball 7p.m.	16	17 Men's Basketball 2p.m.
18	19 Women's Basketball Home 7p.m. Hockey 6:15p.m.	20	21	22	23	24 Open House 1p.m. - 4p.m.
25 Open House SNOW DATE	26	27	28 Academic Majors Fair	29		

Finding A Job Through Networking

By Jennifer Markarian

WNEC–Juniors and Seniors, now is your chance to take advantage of great networking opportunities provided by WNEC.

The first event took place January 31 from 7-9 p.m. Alumni were at WNEC to speak with Juniors and Seniors.

On March 6, from 7-9 p.m., Seniors can meet with alumni in Boston. Cari Carpenter of Career and Human Resources adds, "This is a good opportunity for those planning on relocating after graduation."

The final alumni networking event for Seniors will be in Hartford on April 10 from 5-7 p.m. Transportation will be provided for the events in Boston and Hartford.

At these events, Cari Carpenter remarks, it is essential to be prepared in terms of having questions regarding a career, having copies of your resume, and dressing professionally.

An interesting statistic she cited was that 70-80% of jobs are obtained through networking. Networking does not only take place through alumni, but is also achieved through family, friends, faculty, and past employers.

Get motivated; establish a relationship with all your sources of referral and take advantage of all opportunities that can get you a job.

Sign up for these events at the Career and Human Resource office, and feel free to contact a career counselor for more information.

The World Has Come To WNEC

By Sean Kilborn

WNEC–This semester WNEC has added a new course called World Game Colloquium. This course is run by Professor Emmet Barcalow.

The course is designed for students who are interested in world problems and how to correct them.

The course is a series of lectures by professors from each school here at WNEC. This helps get each and every perspective of world problems and how they affect different people.

Students select a certain topic discussed in lectures and write a 6-8 page report, under the lecturer's supervision.

At the end of the course, the class participates in the World Game. The World Game is when the class sits down and holds a mock United Nations meeting to discuss world problems and how to correct them.

For the students who are interested, the course code is CL 200-02; it is a 1 credit course. Look for it in the following semesters.

Planes, Trains, Automobiles, And Mother Nature

By Jon Dombal

WNEC–Starting March 8, the students of WNEC will be departing to their dream destinations for one week to get away from the drudgery of everyday school work and problems.

This is the time where Freshmen, who are not going away, realize they have to spend another week at home with their parents and a time for Seniors to realize that this is the last vacation and that it doesn't matter if they take an extra day or two off.

Many students are preparing themselves for exotic islands in the Caribbean, and others are headed for the cold ski weather of the Wild West. When one student was asked where he was going his response was "way out of Springfield and into a land of beautiful women and cheap drinks." For many, this is a popular vacation.

Other students noted that they were off in Florida, some to visit grandparents, and others to visit Mickey Mouse. This is a hot spot among many college students across America these days. Florida has always been the place to be at spring break. If you go to the right spot, it's one big college party.

Many students when asked where they were going over break answered the question with an unhappy "home." The reason is that many college students can't afford to go anywhere, and the travel industry does not help to alleviate the problem. They do, but make sure that you have twenty or more friends, all willing to share one room with one single bed in it.

My personal solution to avoiding home this break is to rent a Winabego; load it up with three friends; take a road trip to Colorado for five days of snowboarding heaven, and try to make it back to school in two days. What a way to finish up four years of school.

LOVE On A College Campus

By Anne-Marie Gravel

It's glamorized on television, and it's heavily played-up in the movies; so why haven't you had that college romance yet? Are you looking in the wrong places, hanging out with the wrong kind of people, or are you just fed up with looking?

Well, look no more. WNEC's Bowling Club has the perfect solution for you. COMPUTER DATING!

No, it does NOT involve the Internet, Netscape, or the World Wide Web. It's a harmless process that takes about five minutes of your time.

All you have to do is fill out a questionnaire that asks you a few simple questions about your likes and dislikes, your favorite things to do, and the type of people you like to be with.

After filling out the form, you hand it back in to the friendly people working the tables in the Campus Center, and they will have the forms processed for you.

Then on February 12th and 13th, the printouts will be available for purchase. For purchase you say?! Yes, for purchase!

The proceeds to this fund-raiser will help the club members defer their costs to attend a NATIONAL tournament in Omaha, Nebraska. The cost is only $1 a printout (a small price to pay for love), and each questionnaire produces two printouts.

One printout tells you who you are compatible with in your class, while the other printout gives you who you are compatible with throughout the college.

So stop scoping out your 'mate' in the wrong places, and take five minutes out of your day for a fun way to find that special someone. Oh, and if you already have that special someone then just do it for fun!

ASHA Sponsors National Condom Day On Valentines Day

The American Social Health Association will sponsor National Condom Day on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, by reminding couples to "love responsibly."

"It is crucial that sex partners talk openly about the sensitive subject of sexual health and use condoms to protect one another from sexually transmitted diseases," said ASHA president Peggy Clarke. "Because so many STDs have very mild symptoms or no symptoms at all, an infected person can transmit a disease without being aware of the infection.

Many couples find that sex is more enjoyable if they don't have to worry about getting an STD," Clark said. "And open communication about sexual health can lead to greater intimacy."

ASHA offers a free brochure, "Condoms, Contraceptives and STDs," that discusses the relative benefits of various birth control methods in preventing pregnancy and STD infection. It explains that while other contraceptive methods are effective in preventing pregnancy, only condoms are highly effective in preventing STDs. Natural membrane or "animal skin" condoms are not recommended for STD prevention.

The publication also illustrates the correct ways to use male and female condoms.

"Protecting yourself doesn't mean giving up sexual pleasure," the brochure says. "It just means finding ways to have sex more safely."

An estimated 55 million Americans–one in four adults–have STDs, with 12 million new infections each year. Two-thirds of new infections occur in people under 25 and one-fourth occur in teenagers.

ASHA is a nonprofit organization with headquarters in Research Triangle Park, NC. The mission of the 82-year-old organization is to stop STDs and their harmful consequences to individuals, families and communities.

The ASHA brochure "Condoms, Contraceptives and STDs" is available by calling the ASHA HealthLine at 800/972-8500, Dept. PR-61, P.O. Box 13827, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709, enclosing $1 to cover postage and handling.

Free confidential information about STDs is available through the National STD Hotline, operated by ASHA, at 800/227-8922.

Community Service Options Are Here

By Tony Kempesty

Spring semester is officially underway here at Western New England College. Campus Ministry is continuing to provide community service opportunities for students on campus as it did in the fall semester. Tammy-Joy Blair is continuously coordinating community service projects in which all students can take part. Students must make the choice to serve in their community or let valuable opportunities drift by.

The fall semester saw an extraordinary effort being put forth by the students, faculty and staff here at Western New England College. One of the highlighted events was World Hunger Week during which cans were placed in various areas around the campus such as the bookstore and the snack bar for people to put any loose change or money into.

The goal of this project was to collect $100.00. With the effort and generosity of the students, faculty, and staff of this campus, the goal was surpassed, and a grand total of $104.56 was raised.

All of the money went to the Open Pantry. Thanks to the great efforts put forth by so many caring people on this campus, it was a big success, and another project such as this will follow in the near future.

Spring semester brings a plethora of new community service opportunities that students can get involved in, one of which is a huge project awaiting final approval. The project will be an essay writing contest for high school students in the city of Springfield.

Western New England College students will be sought to judge the essays. The five best essay writers will get to come to the college for a day to see classes, have lunch with the President and staff, and meet students. Any students interested in becoming a judge for this contest should contact Tammy in Campus Ministry.

There are also plenty of other opportunities for students to get involved with community service, such as helping out in Springfield schools. With the other options, an added bonus will affect work study students. Students with a work study award can participate in community service projects and get paid for doing so based on the fact that they have a work study award. In order to get involved with this aspect of community service, students should contact Jonie in Career and Human Resources or Tammy in Campus Ministry.

Community service work can serve as a valuable asset to students in all majors. There are plenty of opportunities for Criminal Justice majors, Social Work majors, Psychology majors, and virtually any other major as well. Some of the programs include tutoring and mentoring youths. If students wish to enhance their resumes for the competitive job market or just feel good knowing that they have helped an unfortunate person, this is the area in which to get involved.

During the spring semester, Tammy has new office hours. If anyone would like to contact her, her hours are Monday and Wednesday from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 3:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 12:30-4:30 p.m. and Friday from 9:00-11:45 a.m. and 1:00-4:30 p.m. If those hours are inconvenient, she can also be reached by appointment at 782-1628. The opportunities await for students to get involved with community service.

NATIONAL CAMPUS NEWS

Event Prepares Seniors For "Real World"

With spring graduation just around the corner, college seniors may be completely confident in their abilities to speak in public, for example, or write a good paper.

But for many, the practical issues–like finding a place to live, buying insurance, or negotiating a lease–may be more threatening.

"These are all things they must learn in their transition from campus to the 'real world'," says Burgwell Howard, director of student activities at **Colgate U.** in upstate New York.

That's why, just before the spring semester begins, Colgate will offer a comprehensive four-day event called "Real World '96." Part educational and part celebration, the event's purpose is to help seniors learn about issues related to personal finance, housing, and the job hunt–issues many haven't had to worry about before.

Dozens of professionals, including about 50 alums, will participate in panel discussions and network with the students.

For the 400 seniors who've registered (out of 700), the event also serves as a way to have one last celebration before they graduate. Each day of Real World '96 will end with an evening social event. On one of the nights, students will gather to watch a videotape of the New Year's Eve celebration in New York City, so that they can cheer as the Big Apple rings in the new year–again.

And on the last day, Howard says, students will be able to take in "one last bit of vacation" by going on a class ski trip.

Some people might question the educational value of Real World '96, believing that students already know about most of the issues covered.

But at a small, private, rural liberal arts campus, where most of the students are of traditional age and live on campus, many of the issues are brand new and need to be addressed.

"It's rather common for our students to leave home and then come to school and live in the residence halls for four years," Howard says. "And even in the summer, while many of our students have summer jobs, many move home to take those jobs, so they still don't get the experiences they need with leases and so on.

"On the finance end of things, Colgate is a pretty pricey liberal arts school, and many students help pay for their own education through loans. But as we all know, when students sign on for a loan, they're not always really aware of all the details–there's a little bit of delayed reality there."

That's why organizers of Real World '96, led by a committee of 10 students, have tried to be as comprehensive as possible by organizing sessions on everything from buying a car to getting renter's insurance.

The event will also feature a strong career-related component, so that seniors will be able to network, learn how to write resumes and cover letters, meet with professionals for informational interviews, and find out more about careers–especially important for liberal arts students.

The social events, Howard says, are a nice complement to the educational sessions–and a carrot to get students to come back early. Now, he says, he's just crossing his fingers in hopes that the students who've signed up will come.

"That's definitely the big question mark right now," he says. "But we're really counting on the fact that it's a great opportunity to interact with alums, to gain some good knowledge, and to have fun with their peers."

Internet Continues To Cause New Headaches On Campus

In the Dec. 18, 1995 issue of *National On-Campus Report*, we reported on several incidents involving students' use of the Internet to offend and/or harass others. Since then, two others have occurred.

U. of North Carolina–Chapel Hill officials are trying to determine who posted a racist message to about 10 Internet "newsgroups" - electronic groups where users discuss various issues. The message, which wound up circulating far beyond those groups, appeared at first glance to come from a UNC student's account to make it look as though the post came from UNC.

The message outlined 11 reasons "why all blacks should go back to Africa," and triggered angry responses from all over the U.S.

Meanwhile, at **Monmouth U. (NJ)**, a student faces criminal and campus disciplinary charges for allegedly bringing the school's email system to a halt - by flooding it with 24,000 messages at once.

Officials say that Dominick LaScala flooded the email system in retaliation for losing his university computing privileges a week before. The "email bomb," they say, cost the school 44 hours and $4,400 to fix.

LaScala faces charges of damaging the system and keeping others from using it. If convicted, he could be imprisoned for up to six years and fined up to $350,000.

Group forming to help students "Caught in the Net"

A 1994 U. of Michigan survey found that first-year students and sophomores spent an average of 10 hours each week on the Internet, and that 18% were on-line for more than 20 hours. "For a limited few," the survey concluded, "this activity seems like a major feature of their lives."

In some cases, says Linda Tipton, a staff psychologist at the U. of Maryland at College Park, the situation can get out of hand. For the last year or so, counseling staff at UMCP have seen an increasing number of students who report spending too much time on the Internet – whether it's playing interactive games, "talking" to other computer users, sendiing and receiving email, or "surfing" the Internet's World Wide Web – to the detriment of their academic and social lives.

That's why Tipton and colleague Jonathan Kendell are forming a support group for students who want to break themselves of the Internet habit.

"Caught in the Net" will meet each week for several weeks and will give participants a chance to find out how much time they spend on the Internet, why they're doing so, and what they can do about it.

Often, says Tipton, students who go on-line for long periods of time are attempting to get away from other problems. But in many cases, she says, this "solution" leads to more problems. Among them: failing classes (because study time turns into on-line time), pulling back from relationships, anad failing to take advantage of other opportunities.

We're hoping that the support group setting will help students validate and support each other iin cutiing back on their Internet use," says Tipton. "Our other goals include helping people be more comfortable socially, helping them feel more confident, and helping them t o use the computer more wisely in their lives. We also want to help them repair any damage that's

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"Neighborhood Saints" Help Rescue Students In Need

You're a student and you don't have enough money to buy your books–at least not until your loan check comes in, which could be days or even weeks from now.

But if you happen to attend **Mt. Hood Community College (OR)**, there's al alternative to charging your books on a high-interest credit card of going without them. Just get in touch with the "Neighborhood Saints," a local citizen group whose purpose is to provide low-cost loans to needy students–with almost no red tape.

"Students can get a loan from us in half an hour," says Betty Schedeen, who founded the group in 1976 and now serves as its coordinator. "The school has all kinds of rules, but when students are desperate, they don't have time for rules. Our motto is, 'We Come to the Rescue.'"

The organization–which gets its name from the school mascot, the St. Bernard–raises its loan money by running an on-campus thrift store.

Students who need loans can simply go to the Saints' nearby office and visit with one of the group's loan officers, all of whom are retirees. Most students walk out with a check in hand, having paid a minimal $1 fee.

And best of all, Schedeen says, the loans carry no interest.

Students go to the Saints for all kinds of reasons, Schedeen says, but typically they ask for money to tide them over while they're waiting for loan or grant money to arrive. She says the group also helps a lot of single parents and students whose roommates have suddenly moved out.

On the other hand, Schedeen admits, the group sees its share of students who try to take advantage of the program–and succeed.

"We've lost about 25% of the money we've raised," she says. "But our philosophy is that if we loan money and don't get it back, that's our mistake and a risk we're willing to take. The vast majority of the time, we're saving lives, and that's what we care about.

"In the beginning, a lot of people would say, 'This doesn't make sense, and you should know that–you're just giving money away.' I had to remind people over and over, 'Don't worry about it. We're here to help. If we get our money back, that's fine, and if we don't, that's fine too.'"

Schedeen is the first to admit that the process of deciding who gets loans and who doesn't is by no means scientific. Most of all, she says, the loan officers rely on gut and instincts.

"We're not professional at all, but you get a feel pretty fast about who's sincere and who isn't," she says. "We're the judge and jury. We have to believe in you and we have to believe the money will come back."

In most cases it does, so that more students can be helped. In an average year, the Saints will loan out about $75,000 to more than 400 students.

NATIONAL CAMPUS NEWS & CAPSULES

From Previous Page

"No trust"

The president of Texas A&M U. has rejected a faculty plan to require students to take two courses on multi-culturalism, saying "the ensuing controversy" would do more harm than good.

In a letter to the head of the faculty senate, Ray Bowen said he could not approve the idea because the university, like the nation, has been unable to have civil discussions about complex issues.

"If there is any general observation about the environment which surrounds my decision, it is that ... there is no trust among the stakeholders of our university," Bowen wrote. "This is a distressing observation because the proposal is a moderate, well-thought-out modification of our core curriculum."

Some faculty said they're disappointed that Bowen won't fight for something he seemingly believed in.

"I'm somewhat amazed Dr. Bowen could talk about how moderate the proposal was and then attribute his decision to external pressure," says Pierce Cantrell, speaker of the faculty senate.

Bowen says the proposed plan brought him "a constant stream of critical calls and letters."

Grade-A problem

Five U. of Massachusetts at Amherst basketball players and one former player plan to sue the university and the state over the release of players' grades to a *Boston Globe* reporter, the *Philadelphia Daily News* reports.

The *Globe* eventually published the grades, many of which were low enough to be embarrassing to the players and the school.

"It was a university employee that allegedly produced the grades to the *Boston Globe*," according to the source for the *Daily News* article. "There are a number of potential common law and statutory violations involved in that."

Defaming paper?

An administrator at the King County Jail (WA) is suing the U. of Washington and four of its former students, saying the students defamed him in a term paper they wrote about affirmative action problems at the jail.

Capt. Philip Adams, one of the three highest-ranking African American officers at the jail, says that "racist" comments in the paper clearly referred to him. The paper was circulated around the jail.

One of the former students named in the suit is Nesby Glascow, a former UW and Seattle Seahawks football player who now works for the Indianapolis Colts. Glascow says he was shocked by the suit.

"There was no malicious intent," says Glascow, who is also African American. "It was a composite of different opinions we had; some coincided and some didn't. It was a synopsis of problems we had seen. I'm dumb-founded by this."

"Animal House" environment?

Living in a fraternity or sorority house increases a student's chances for "binge drinking," according to a new study by the Harvard School of Public Health. The study found that 86% of fraternity house residents and 80% of sorority house residents are binge drinkers, meaning that they'd had five or more drinks in one sitting at least once in the two weeks before the survey was done.

This compares with binge drinking by 45% of male and 36% of female students not affiliated with Greek organizations.

The study also found that there are more binge drinkers among students who are in Greek organizations but not residents of a Greek house (71% for men and 58% for women).

"The frequency of binge drinking by fraternity men and sorority women leads to an *Animal House* style of living," says Henry Wechsler, principal investigator for the study. "It should cause great concern and immediate action at every institution hosting these groups."

The study was conducted in 1993 by sending questionnaires to a representative sample of 14,700 students on 115 campuses that have Greek organizations.

Low demand

Growing vandalism and low sales have convinced campus administrators at Duke U. (NC) to remove condom machines from residence hall restrooms.

Students must now get condoms from student volunteers in the residence halls. But they can also get them at the student health service – where, it turns out, students may have been going in the first place.

"Last year we gave away over 12,000 condoms," says Lisa Barber-Murphy, a health education specialist. "This year, we've already given away more than that amount."

Explosive arsenal

A student at the State U. of New York College of Technology at Alfred has been charged with keeping explosives and weapons in his residence hall room.

Michael McAuley was suspended after campus security officers found several explosive devices in his room, including nitroglycerin capsules, detonators, gunpowder, and hexamine, a substance used in incendiary bombs.

Arnold Hence, vice president for student affairs, declined a *Buffalo News* request to speculate on what the student was going to do with the explosives. "But keep in mind that he's an 18-year-old," Hence said.

After the incident, campus officials held a meeting with about 2,500 residence hall students to discuss the situation.

McAuley is free on $10,000 bail.

Official recognition

St. Mary's U. (TX), a Catholic university, has decided to officially recognize a law school group formed to explore gay and lesbian legal issues.

While church doctrine describes homosexual acts as "intrinsically disordered," it acknowledges that people do not choose their sexual orientation – and therefore, they should not be discriminated against, according to the Rev. John Moder, president of the university. The Legal Education Association for Gay and Lesbian Issues will explore discrimination based on sexual orientation. The group's co-founder says 15 students have signed up, half of them heterosexual.

Underground attack

A four-page "underground" newspaper which appeared recently at Los Angeles Valley College called on administrators to investigate the cancellation of an issue of LAVC's student newspaper by its advisor.

The underground paper was dubbed the *Valley's Fallen Star*, an apparent play on the title of the student newspaper, the *Valley Star's*. Its lead article charged that the *Valley Star's* faculty advisor, Joan Stuller, was responsible for the cancellation of the Nov. 29 issue.

Stuller, however, said that her actions were "not an issue of censorship," and that some reports published in the paper were inaccurate. "Just because they put it in print doesn't mean it's true," she said.

About 2,000 copies of the underground paper were printed.

Shut down – for now

After having its funds frozen by the student government, the student newspaper at Rossell Sage College (NY) scraped together enough money recently to publish an abbreviated issue covering the ensuing controversy.

The Student Senate voted to freeze *The Quill's* $22,000 annual budget because some student leaders felt they had to censor their comments when *Quill* reporters were present.

Quill staff members felt so strongly about what happened that they raised enough money to print 250 copies of an abbreviated paper – which they distributed to students by hand.

Soon after classes resume this month, an independent mediator will bring both sides together in an attempt to resolve the dispute.

Racist fliers

A U. of Puget Sound (WA) student says she recently found racist fliers in about 30 library books.

Aileen Balahadia says she was browsing through the library's race and ethnicity section when she found a flier in one of the books she picked up. So she opened another, and then another, she says, and found copies of fliers in those books as well.

"After each book, I checked the next one, and my heart was sinking every time," says Balahadia, president of the school's Awareness of Pacific and Asian Cultures Association. "It was so disheartening because we've been trying to do so much on campus for diversity."

The fliers said that the future of white Americans is threatened by minority special interest groups, and gave the name and phone number of an out-of-state group encouraging whites to "take back America."

Campus officials don't yet know who put the fliers in the books.

Professor reprimanded

Central Connecticut State U. has reprimanded a professor who allegedly threatened and harassed a student who tore down an article the professor had posted on a campus bulletin board.

Professor Jay Bergman, who denies the allegations, was also advised by administrators to seek "psychological counseling" for his "problem."

The article came from *Campus Report*, a newsletter published by Accuracy in Academia. It described an atmosphere of intolerance at the school for faculty who oppose affirmative action.

The article offended Dawn Bliesener so much that she tore it down – and when she did, she charges, Bergman spit at her. Bliesener says she thought that Bergman would hit her during the exchange.

But in a letter to CCSU's interim president, Merle Harris, Bergman said that Bliesener "repeatedly asked me in a taunting fashion, 'Are you going to hit me? Are you going to hit me?' To this I responded, 'Of course not.'"

The reprimand will remain on Bergman's record for two years. Bergman, meanwhile, has filed a grievance against the university.

Making money?

A Bessemer State Technical College (AL) student

Group forming

Continued from Page 4

been done ... because they were stuck on the computer."

Tipton says the group will not attempt to help students quit "cold turkey" because the Internet "is a wonderful thing, and students shouldn't stop using it completely." Instead, she says, she and Kendell will use behavior-modification strategies – like helping students set time limits for their Internet use – to "help students cut back so that they're using the Internet wisely."

Taking control

Two years ago, counseling center staff never saw students who complained of spending too much time on-line. Now, Tipton says, "We see maybe one student a month who cites it as a primary or secondary concern."

And as more students – at UMCP and elsewhere – use the Internet (at UMCP, 32,000 of its 35,000 students have email accounts), the problem has the potential of spreading.

It's something that very similar to procrastination in that it never really goes away," Tipton says "To get control of it, you need to fiture out what triggers it.

"But it's not quite like alcohol, where you can say, 'I will never drink again.' The Internet is something students will need for the rest of their lives because the technology is here.

"If we can help students learn about their reactions to things, about why they're using the computer, and about what's a helpful use of the computer and what isn't, we'll be able to teach them how to manage it."

Conn. Commissioner

from Page 1

the inmates. He mentioned about the new goals of the Department of Corrections. Previously the department put the convicted inmates ahead of the staff. They now put staff ahead of inmates to restore public confidence and maintain integrity. He stated that the staff should be respected above the offenders.

A mentor was a valuable importance to him. At one job when he worked at the Somers facility, he developed a relationship with George Bronson, a retired warden and professor here at Western New England College. While at Somers he worked as a captain and oversaw disciplinary hearings. He was a captain for two years and appointed to Major in a Cheshire facility later. After holding various positions, he arrived at his present position of commissioner of corrections for the state of Connecticut.

Another highlight of Armstrong's appearance was a special video that he showed concerning gangs within the prison system. It gave students the message about how making correct choices in life is extremely important. Various former gang members from the Latin Kings, Los Solidos and other gangs were portrayed. They all sent a serious message out to students about how much harm joining a gang can cause to loved ones.

Commissioner Armstrong put on an enjoyable presentation for everyone that attended. He gave insight on his career and talked about opportunities for students. It was a very informative presentation and the Criminal Justice did a good job in inviting him to speak.

NATIONAL CAMPUS NEWS & CAPSULES

From Page 5

used a school printing press to produce $82,000 in counterfeit cash, the Secret Service says.

Kenneth Dent, who was taking a graphics and printing class, was arrested in Fairfield, AL, when he tried to use one of the bogus bills, according to Secret Service agent Dennis Jacobs.

"We found the bills, some unfinished, at his apartment," Jacobs says. Agents also seized printing plates and negatives for $100, $50, $20, and $10 bills.

Dent faces charges of making, possessing, and trying to pass counterfeit money. He faces up to 30 years in prison and $30,000 in fines if convicted.

Letter-imperfect

A **U. of Tennessee-Knoxville** student who for more than eight months has been avoiding court appearances for drunken driving wrote himself right into jail recently – by sending the judge a glowing letter on UTK stationery.

Jonathan Cirtain's letter, purportedly written by a campus administrator, praised Cirtain as an exceptional student. It concluded by telling the person to whom it was sent to contact the UTK student affairs office if there were any questions.

So prosecutors did just that..

"Apparently he had gotten the letterhead from another student," says Henry Williams, executive assistant in the attorney general's office. "He had the dean in the wrong department and it was the shakiest signature I've ever seen."

Cirtain had been dodging court appearances by saying through his attorney that he was maintaining a 3.78 GPA in school. He sent the letter to bolster his story.

For his efforts, Cirtain earned a contempt of court conviction and 60 days in jail, with 58 of those days suspended.

"Modest improvement"

The number of new college graduates who can expect to find jobs this spring will go up by about 4.7% over last year, according to a recently released hiring survey conducted by **Michigan State U.**

But the starting salaries will go up by only half a percent over last year, the survey says.

"It remains a very competitive job market out there, so the graduates by no means will find easy hunting," says Patrick Scheetz, director of the Collegiate Employment Research Institute and author of the study. "It is a modest improvement."

The best prospects are for engineers, computer scientists, business majors, health professionals, and science majors, the study says.

The study surveyed 527 businesses, industries, and government agencies.

Communication edge

December college graduates who can engage in conversation comfortably might have an edge in the job market, according to a recent study conducted by the National Association of Colleges and Employers.

The study found that oral communication skills are the most important ability a new college graduate can offer an employer.

The survey asked employers hiring new graduates to rate the importance of a variety of skills in job candidates, using a 5-point scale (5=extremely important). Oral communication was ranked first with a 4.7 rating, followed by interpersonal skills (4.6) and teamwork skills (4.5).

"The skills that employers gave the top three ratings all relate to communication," notes Michael Forrest, executive director of NACE. "Today's business environment accentuates the need for effective communications – it's critical to an organization's success."

Do-it-yourself financing

The 2,500 engineering students at the **U. of Alberta** recently voted to charge themselves a $50 annual student fee for a fund that will pay for equipment upgrades.

Some of the current equipment "is from the 1970s and doesn't function," says Prudence Hoffman, academic vice president of the Engineering Students Society. "You've got to bang it to make it work."

Hoffman and others organized a referendum among the engineering students in which 85% (tumout was 40%) voted in favor of the fee.

The fee will begin next September and generate about $120,000 a year in revenue. A student-led committee will decide how to spend the money.

Canfession line

Dozens of **Southern Illinois U.-Edwardsville** students who charged long-distance calls to the school have called a hotline to confess – so that they can avoid prosecution.

So far, more than 100 students have called to arrange restitution for their share of about $1.1 million in personal long-distance calls charged to the university, according to housing director Michael Schultz.

Students suspected of billing the school were identified by tracing calls listed on campus phone bills. Most of the calls were traced to phones used by students in SIUE's residence hall and at its Tower Lake apartment complex.

In all, about 2,700 students received letters offering amnesty for admission of guilt. Kenneth Naher, vice president for administration, says that most of the students probably made the fraudulent calls because they saw others doing it and didn't think of the consequences.

"The phrase I expect to hear from many of them is, 'Everybody was doing it, so I did too,' " he says.

Students have until Feb. 29 to take advantage of the amnesty offer. Those who don't will be prosecuted.

Reversal sparks recognition

Texas Wesleyan U. President Jake Schrum has reversed his decision to deny official recognition to a student organization for gay, lesbian, and bisexual students, saying the group's revised purpose "is now compatible with the mission of Texas Wesleyan University and the position of the United Methodist Church."

The group originally called itself Gays, Lesbians, and Extras and talked of supporting people with concerns about their sexuality. Organizers have since revised the group's purpose, saying they'll raise money for AIDS awareness and provide a forum for sexual orientation issues.

The group has also changed its name to Gays, Lesbians, and Everybody Else, or GLEE.

"I was pretty happy about it (Schrum's reversal)," says Angela Gant, a spokesperson for the group. "His entire stance against it was based on the church; therefore, the easiest thing to do was to take the church out of the equation and make it a service organization."

Matchmaker, matchmaker ...

In response to a tough job market, the **U. of Saskatchewan** has developed a registry system to help employers find suitable student applicants more easily.

The system consists of a data-base that profiles each student's abilities and experiences. By using the program, campus professionals can quickly create a list of students who have the skills desired by a particular employer.

"Music Partnership"

Eight **U. of California-Los Angeles** students are part of the Music Partnership, a program that allows them to teach music to South Los Angeles students who otherwise could not afford private lessons.

The student teachers provide free half-hour lessons to about 40 students each week, most of them in grades K-8.

The program is funded by a UCLA-based group called Design for Sharing.

Big Chill '96 Heats up!

Are you sick and tired of winter already? Is the cold and snow getting on your nerves?

Well look out WNEC because winter is taking on a new face -- Big Chill '96.

Big Chill '96 is a week full of fun and activities. Sponsored by the Campus Activities Board, the week will be taking place between February 11-17.

The week kicks off on Sunday with the movie "Say Anything" which will be shown in Dining Room A. Monday will be the ever-popular psychic fair. Tuesday will feature the band "Life in General". The HLC will be the place of fun on Wednesday with the annual health fair and a chance to experience virtual reality. Thursday enjoy a carnival in the mall area of the Campus Center. There will be everything from snow cones to sumo wrestling to vendors to pique your interest. The Harlem Wizards and a special Friday's will highlight Friday. And the week will en on Saturday with a sun and fun-filled Club Med Party.

So keep your eyes anad ears opened for more details and you'll be sure to have a good time.

For the Month Starting February 5, 1996

the Westerner WNEC

Editorial

Mad As Hell!

By Erik K. Foubert
Editorial Editor

There is a problem with Western New England College. I know that sounds funny coming from me but I must elaborate on my thoughts. This is not a college it's a high schuol. I have seen, heard, and unfortunately been engulfed in situations that generally occur at high schools. The students are caught in a cycle of trying to mature and be responsible but get knocked back to the high school mentality. By whom you may ask, both the administrators and faculty. These obsessive policies of mandatory attendance, the idea of a hand-holding peer advisor, and of course every Residence Life policy. These thoughts are not arbitrary because they have been developed over the three years of my college career.

Recently, I found a past issue of the *Westerner* which also calls WNEC a "High School" and it is, in fact, reprinted in this issue entitled "Bitch of the Week". This article dates back to the early seventies yet gives examples of the same problems that are occurring here. Doesn't WNEC ever learn? Don't they read their own publications? Don't they listen to the students? If nnt, they should start. But that would be too simple!

First, this mandatory attendance is ridiculous. If you don't go to class, you won't learn the material, and subsequently fail. What don't you understand? Is this idea a problem for some of you? I don't think so. This three strikes and then you start deducting points is childish. The faculty have better things to do than take roll at the beginning of every class, I'm sure. We, as students, should be responsible enough to appear when we feel it is appropriate. Besides, a lot of students have said that the faculty quotes from the text. If this is true, we should just read the book and take the exams.

Second, the Peer Advisors are a great organization but follow along just a little too closely. They should help you for the first month or so, and allow you to grow at your own pace. If someone needs additional attention, then by all means help out. This full year responsibility of watching over a student's academic and social lives is outlandish. Both the students and peer advisors have their own grades and lives to worry about. For example, Martha Ferraiola, she spends too much time cooking for her advisees and less time thrashing the administration. Where is the Martha of old? She loves doing things for her group but there is plenty of other things she could be doing. She could perhaps be harassing Dr. Oberg with her interviews.

Third, Residence Life and their ninety-nine million excuses of why students can't light a candle, sit on comfortable furniture, crack a beer, or have a blowout-light-the furniture-on-fire party. Instead, we are to abide by the lovely quiet hours, which coincidentally is called "quiet time" for the preschool and daycare students. But we must admit that the Residence Life Staff puts up with a lot of criticism. Compassion would allow them to improve about three hundred percent but we won't expect too much.

The point of this article is to show some of the insanely immature policies that steal from the students desire to become responsible, mature adults. The best way for this to happen is to allow them to make their mistakes and learn from them. WNEC can't be the parental figure even if it tried. It is my hope that the new President of WNEC will see these problems, correct them, and give the students their futures back.

Bitch Of The Week

"Reprinted From *The Westerner*, Feb. 3, 1971"

In the last issue of the *Westerner*, there was a picture which referred to this college as a "high school." I am sure that most of the members of the administration were set back by a remark like this about "their fine college." There were those members of the administration who expressed this feeling to me. I have but one thing to say to all of them, "wake up." All of you can look down from above and say to yourselves, we are running in the black, we have no radical problems, no adverse publicity, this is a fine college. Maybe this,attitude was fine back in the infamous date of 1919, but times have changed and with the times the students have changed. It is unfortunate that this school has not changed. The administrators should try looking at things from the inside. Maybe if some of them were told that they needed certain requirements to graduate and then were told that the school was sorry but those courses were not being offered at this time then maybe they would begin to become skeptical about their fine college. Or if they had two courses they needed scheduled at the same time and both were needed for graduation; and in addition told that there was a possibility they would not be offered again; then maybe they would begin to think about the possibility that maybe their fine college was not as fine as they thought.

Let me add that one of the major complaints that we, the students, have is that we would like to be able to call WNEC our college instead of the administratinn calling it their college. It is our lives that are being molded here, why can't we make some of the decisions? The big question is which comes first, the college or the students?

Write for the Westerner!!

To Ski Or Not To Ski . . .?

By Chris Henyan
News Editor

With each New England winter, the traditional allure of skiing seems to grip the recreational love of the hearts and minds of us chowder-heads. Growing up in the snowy ski-heaven state called Maine, it would be natural to assume that I am "one" with the fundamental points of the sport. Despite the fact that I am a native Mainer and have friends who are Maine State Skiing champion and U.S. Olympic team material, the skill of the slope has alluded my understanding and appreciation. In fact, I have skied, or is it skidded?, and I hated it. This is the stirring tale of my experience in all its splendor; not to worry, it's all "downhill" from here.

My friend Angela gave me a call one frosty night a few years ago and invited me to go on my first (and to this point last) ever skiing adventure. So I thought yeah, why not, what could be the worst thing that could happen? Broken leg? So I said yes and was on my way to a frozen hell.

We arrived at the mountain around seven o'clock or so, and went into the equipment shack to pick up our tickets and skiing apparatus. By the way, there are many things that I dislike about the culture of skiing. I hate the term "lift ticket", and I can't stand those neon-colored jackets that were popular a few years back thanks to this aerobic activity. Another thing that annoys me are the names of major ski mountains around the region. "Sugarloaf," "Waterville Valley," and "Mount Tom" are all resort-mountain areas that sound ever so gleeful and cozy. "Oh Mommy, can we go to the 'Sugar' place, or that 'Valley,' or over to 'Tom's?" For God's sake, you'd almost think that your Uncle Tom owned "Mount Tom" and invited you up every weekend. "Bring the whole family!," says everyone's favorite Uncle. Good 'ol Tom! Give me a break, those places should be investigated for false advertising by using friendly names to lure innocent civilians such as myself in, to rob and abuse. One of the few ski spots I can respect is "Killington," simply because of the word "kill" in the name that accurately depicts what the experience could do to you.

Anyway, I put my skis on and worked my way across a long straight open field to get to that ski-lift machine that propelled me to trouble. I don't really remember the ride up the mountain, but Angela said that she has never heard me use the "F" word so many times in her life. Well the lift machine had me about a mile up in the air and I could have fallen out of the little seat if a small breeze hit, or if I got an itch on my foot. But heroically, I made it and also was able to conquer the complicated but important, "getting off the seat" maneuver. So I slid off the ramp like a pro, ready to take on all challenges that this pathetic molehill could throw at me.

As we moved closer to the launching area, I began to get a tad bit concerned about the ninety degree angle at which the slope took. Of course Angela says "just do this" and gracefully makes her way down the mountain and down a text-book stopping move that makes her look like some kind of professional ski instructor. I begin to resent the way she made it look so easy. Then she says to me from the canyon, "c'mon down, c'mon." There is no way whatsoever that I'm going to be able to accnmplish such a feat without going head-nver-heels and making the "remember when" highlight conversational piece for the rest of my life. I could just picture her saying, "You should have seen his face when . . ." and between laughing gasps for air, "and then he . . ." No

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To The Editor:

For the past few months, I have witnessed on more than a few occasions, the elite Public Safety Staff driving their lovely vehicles in the improver direction. I am a Gateway Resident and am more than disturbed with this frequent disregard for rules that only apply for students. I have heard, on more than one occasion, that students have been fined for exactly the same violation. I'm sorry, if you expect the students to observe the rules of the campus, then everyone should have to. This is a blatant misuse of power and offends the students.

I would hope that any student that witnesses this wrongdoing will engage in a head-on collision with Public Safety. Wear your seatbelt and sue for damages later. This may teach these egomaniacs to follow the rules. Is it a prerequisite to be a criminal before entering law enforcement?

Name Withheld

the Westerner

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All copy and advertising sheets must be submitted before 6 p.m. of the deadline date for publication. Any copy not meeting this requirement shall be subject to the *editor's discretion*.

Letters to the Editor should be typed and must include the author's name and telephone number for verification. The editor is not responsible for correcting submitted letters. Unsigned letters will not be published, however, names may be withheld at the author's request. All expressed opinions do not necessarily represent those of The Westerner, its staff, or its advertisers. The editors reserve the right to edit all material. Classified advertising is free to all Western New England College students, anyone offering housing to students, or businesses seeking to employ students. These ads must be 25 words or less.

Display advertising can be obtained for a charge through our business director. Recognized campus organizations are eligible for half page print ads. Free ads will be run for non-profit organizations at the editor's discretion.

All submissions are greatly encouraged

Migraine: When It's More Than Just A Headache

Millions of people suffer needlessly from migraine because they don't know they have it. College and university students, in particular, should be aware of migraine symptoms because their age group represents a time when their lives are filled with the factors and conditions that can "trigger" migraine attacks. A leading headache specialist offers advice to students who may be suffering from migraine.

You've just made it through another week filled with all-nighters, caffeine fixes, junk food, mid-terms and loud music. The weekend is finally here, and you're ready to kick back and relax. Suddenly, our head seems to explode with throbbing, pounding pain, so intense that all you want to do is crawl in bed and not deal with anything or anybody. This isn't fair–free time is no time for a headache.

Chances are, what you've got may be much more than "just" a headache. It may be migraine, a disease that can cause pain so intense that many sufferers have wished they were dead during an attack. Unfortunately, the symptoms of migraine are often discounted as not serious, especially in this age group. Though migraine typically strikes more often after the college years, it *can occur* earlier in life. A study of headaches among adolescents and young adults indicates an average of 77.8 percent of women and 57.8 percent of men between the ages of 18 and 29 reported that their most recent headache occurred within four weeks of participating in the study.

What's worse, however, is the number of people with migraine who don't seek a treatment plan. Of those who participated in the same study an average of 85 percent of men and 68 percent of women who reported having one or more headache in the prior year had never consulted a physician about their headaches. These facts are consistent with the results of a recent national survey of physicians that showed that the typical migraine sufferer waits an average of 3.5 years before consulting a doctor for treatment for their headache. That's years of needless suffering!

Migraine Symptoms

Migraine is characterized by multiple symptoms including severe, recurrent pain, usually on one side of the head and often accompanied by one or more of the following associated symptoms: nausea, vomiting and sensitivity to light and sound. Migraine attacks can last from four to 72 hours.

"The pain is often aggravated by routine movement or physical exertion," said Dr. Glen Solomon, head, Section of Headache at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. "Frequently, the sufferer has to lie in a dark, quiet room until the attack passes–a coping mechanism that is not often a practical alternative in a busy lifestyle," he said.

"Unfortunately, many young adults suffer needlessly from migraine because they do not understand the disease and the options for relief from pain it causes," Solomon said. "One of the first steps in understanding the disease is knowing some of the basic symptoms, which are different in each sufferer."

Until very recently, the cause of a migraine attack was largely a mystery. Many scientists now believe that migraine is caused by a sequence of events that cause blood vessels in the brain to tighten, then relax, resulting in the throbbing pain of a migraine. Although there is no cure for migraine, much has been learned to manage the disease, including effective treatment programs.**Finding the Route tu Relief**

"The first step is to see a physician for a proper diagnosis and treatment program," Solomon said, noting that diagnosis should include a thorough evaluation of the headache to ensure it is not a "marker" or indication of any number of serious problems. He also emphasized a review of a family medical history, particularly because there is about a 75% chance of having migraine if both parents are migraine sufferers, and about a 50% chance if only one parent has migraine.

"One of the things we often notice in young patients is that when they shut off the stereo, they have a terrible headache," he said. "They become extremely sensitive to sound, which can trigger a migraine attack." The patient plays an important role in treatment, Dr. Solomon said, adding that learning to recognize and control the signs and "trigger" factors common in the lifestyles of young people is essential. Examples of different triggers include:

- Irregular sleep or insufficient sleep
- Dietary factors, such as skipping meals, dieting and consuming foods and beverages with caffeine, alcohol, MSG or nitrites.
- Environmental changes including changes in atmospheric pressure or temperature as well as cigarette smoke, bright lights, and loud noises–even music.
- Certain medications, including over-the-counter pain relievers and analgesics, such as aspirin. (Many of these medications also contain caffeine, a known migraine trigger.)
- Hormonal changes, associated with birth-control pills or menstrual cycles.
- Motion from riding bikes or cars, eyestrain, irregular workouts or even a lack of exercise.
- Emotional changes, including fatigue, depression, anxiety, anticipation or stress.

"Because migraines commonly occur when there is a let-down after stress, weekends, vacations, and holidays are common times to get migraine headaches," said Solomon. He also adds that, just as migraines can be triggered by stress, they also *add* stress to a person's life, thereby creating a vicious cycle of pain for migraine sufferers.

"When you add several days each month of being bed-ridden or not being able to function at a high level, stress increases dramatically," said Solomon.

Migraine is a difficult disease to diagnose, treat and live with because it affects people differently, with symptoms and triggers varying by individual. However, relief from migraine pain is possible, and early diagnosis and treatment will help lessen the impact it will have on sufferers' lives now and in the future.

Note to Editors: *Chart Your Rote to Relief*, a new booklet, includes a comprehensive headache diary that can help sufferers to work with their physicians to determine if their headaches are migraines. **This health education material has been reviewed favorably by the American Academy of Family Physicians Foundation** and is made available to your readers at no cost by Glaxo Wellcome Inc. by calling 1-800-377-0302, or by writing: *Chart Your Route to Relief*, P.O. Box 800, Wendell, N.C. 27591.

Continued from Page 7

way. Not me, not here, not now.

A bunch of people accumulated behind me and I decided to move over and "stretch" until they went by. "Beautiful night for skiing," I probably said, attempting to "yuppies" myself. So I let the batch of Olympic hopefuls go through, and moved closer to the edge to see Angela still there, yelling for me to get going. Now I knew that there was no way I could keep my balance for two yards, and combining that with my healthy respect for heights caused me to immediately label this situation as unfair. Again she continued to yell, and I told her to get going, that I'd do it by myself (so that there would be no stories!!). But she wouldn't comply so I simply backed away till she couldn't see me, and waited and waited until "Mary Lou" would eventually give up and take off down her "balance-beam" that was a mountain to the rest of the world. Now don't get me wrong, I love the snow, but my idea of snowy fun is more barbaric. My style would include a cheap plastic sled and buddies to smash into as we flew down the mountain; knowing, expecting, and giddily awaiting to crash and freeze (you thought I would say burn). But balance?, skill?, grace? Definitely not attributes of mine. If Angela symbolized an Eagle, I would be closer to imitating a rottweiler.

Soon I was alone, and I surveyed the launching area and realized that there would not be enough room for the rescue helicopter to land. The snow came down at a slow, steady pace and the wind blew through the trees as if they got together and said, "Hey guys, let's make scary noises and spook this clown!" Peering down the slope was like looking down the barrel of a loaded shotgun, and I knew it was me versus nature. I felt like Sylvester Stallone in the movie "Cliffhanger," and this challenge was MINE! I bravely unclipped my skis and began to walk down the side path, or more correctly, my own personal path that I plowed as I walked. This lasted about five feet until I sank up to my waist in snow. I now saw that my fate had me wearing the skis down the mountain! This was going to be just about as hard, no, harder than I had anticipated.

I scraped and bungled my way down, starting to ski, or what I called skiing, and crashed to a jolting stop time and time again. I wasn't skiing, I was a quarterback without an offensive line, and the mountain continuously sacked me. At times it seemed like I simply tucked my head near my knees and rolled down the hill, stopping only occasionally to make sure I wasn't too far off into the woods. "Yep, got a ways still to go," (tuck and roll . . .). Sometimes I'd hear others coming, and my pride stopped my progress and told me to get the hell off the trail before somebody saw how bad I really was. They'd ask if I was all right, and of course I was; "just fixing my equipment: (wink). But before the same groups could pass me four times as I was "fixing my stuff," I decided that I'd better hustle down this hill. People could start talking (laughing). Soon came the home stretch and I sat back on my skis and almost slid down the rest of the mountain. My anti-coordination buddies would have been proud as I zoomed towards the lodge without totally dislocating either of my knees.

I made it! And I did not want to go up again despite the constant pestering that I got from "Miss Downhill". "I was just in a life-threatening situation, and fought my way back to safety, why would I want to put my existence in peril once again"?, I explained. I won, the mountain lost, and I wasn't about to go and give it another chance to "redeem" itself at my expense. I ate an over-priced candy bar with over-priced coffee and fumed in the lodge, wondering why I had wasted money on frustrating myself with this silly pastime. I didn't speak the entire trip home. I vowed never again to go skiing; I'm an adult, I don't have to try new things anymore. I dreamt (still do) of the money I spent, and the beer it could have purchased. I said "never again." No way. She can't make me go again. Who am I kidding? (Grudgingly:) "How much for two lift tickets, with the works buddy?"

the Westerner

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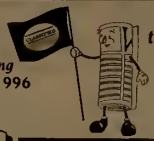

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Send only $8.95 ($9.60 in Calif.)-add .50 cents RUSH service to: American Institute, 721 E. Main Street, Dept. 254, Santa Maria, CA 93454-4507. Don't order unless you expect to lose 20 pounds in two weeks! Because that's what the Ski Team Diet will do.

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CAREER

WNEK's New Spring Schedule

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	TIME
10-12	DAVE METAL	KARL ALTERNATIVE	IAN & GREG OPEN	KEVIN ALTERNATIVE			JASON & GREG OPEN	9-11
12-2	TIM R&B	MARTHA COUNTRY	JAY ,TIM, BRIAN ROCK	LAURA & JULIE OPEN	JOHN R&B	CHRIS & IAN OPEN	PAUL ROCK	11-1
2-4	KEVIN ALTERNATIVE	JEFF ALTERNATIVE	AARON SKA/ ALT.	CHUCK ALTERNATIVE	JILL & ELIA R & B	WALTER R & B	OLIVER OPEN	1-3
4-6	ROB & ED OPEN	BOB & PAT METAL	STEW METAL	PAUL METAL	DAVE & CHRIS ROCK	PAT & MELISSA R & B	MIKE & NICOLE OPEN	3-5
6-8	STACEY ALTERNATIVE	STEVE & RICH ALTERNATIVE	JON ALTERNATIVE	RICH & SETH R&B	JOHN & MIKE ALTERNATIVE	MICHELLE/MELANIE R&B	KEVIN METAL	5-7
8-10	KAREN ALTERNATIVE	ROB METAL	JASON ALTERNATIVE	SHANGO R & B	STEVE & MIKE ALTERNATIVE	ERIC R & B	LAURA/HEATHER ALTERNATIVE	7-9
10-12	CATHY ALTERNATIVE	HEATHER ALTERNATIVE	TIM & HARLEY METAL	BECKY & JASON R&B	NICK METAL	J.R. R & B	NICOLE ALTERNATIVE	9-11

Ask Bob:

Dear Bob:

We started new classes last week, and there is this girl that sits next to me. She always looks her best and we always seem to make eye contact. I would like to introduce myself to her and maybe ask her to a movie or something, but I don't know what to say. I don't want to get rejected or look like a dork. What should I do?

Tongue Tied at WNEC

Dear Tongue Tied:

Many of the students here feel the same way, especially the females. The majority feel intimidated by taking the first step, try to find something where you would have a common interest, ie something involving the class, or talking about the latest WNEC gossip (there's plenty of that to go around), don't be afraid. The worst that can happen is that you'll have made a good friend. It may develop into something more later. Be optimistic.

Dear Bob:

This is my second year at WNEC and I have been having some roommate problems. Last year, my roommate and I were best friends. We respected each other's space and we were able to talk things through. This year, I'm living with a stranger and it's very difficult. She brings guys home and they have sex while I sleep. It really makes me uncomfortable. What should I do??

Truly Sleepy

Dear Truly Sleepy,

If you have a problem with this person, bring it out and into the open. Sex is supposed to be a personal thing. If you disapprove with her actions, speak up. Your objections may not be obvious. There are many people that have no problems with sex occurring around them.

Dear Bob:

I have been having roommate problems for a long time and just don't know what to do. He is a good guy but his girlfriend has taken over his life. Every time that he has a problem he wants me to help. At first, I'd oblige but now I just don't care. He has alienated his friends and they are disgusted with him.

Now, he is in the room a lot more and expects us to do things together. I just don't see spending time with someone that drops his friends when he meets a chick. What should I do???

Caught in the Middle

Dear Caught in the Middle:

First, he is your roommate and you should try to get along. You don't have to be best friends, just civil. If he does find another girlfriend, just explain to him that you don't want to get involved. Let me know how it turns out.

Dear Bob:

I met this chick that I thought was pretty cool at the end of last semester at Mory's. We hung out and ended up having sex. Since then, I have noticed that she has been ignoring me and will not return my phone calls. I realize that it was just a one-night stand but I would like to hope for something more. What can I do to get her to talk to me?

Clueless

Dear Clueless:

As a great philosopher once said "Acknowledge, move on." This might be a piece of wisdom that you should take to heart, if this girl had been interested, by now she would have most likely gotten in touch with you. There is not much to do about the situation.

Dear Bob:

There's this really cute guy in one of my classes this semester. I have seen him before around campus and would like to go out with him. The problem is I think he is shy and is afraid to ask. What should I do?

Sincerely,
On Hold

Dear On Hold:

If you really like the guy, go for it. It is the 90's and a girl asking a guy out has come to be accepted. Put your inhibitions on hold and just do it.

Dear Bob:

I have been having trouble with my roommate for the whole year. I live in Gateway Village and he has repeatedly promised to clean the bathroom but has not done it yet. No amount of cajoling or threats have been able to convince him to do it. My other roommate and I are at our wits end. What can we do to make him partake of his share in cleaning of our apartment?

Sincerely,
Tired of the Ring

Dear Tired:

Maybe at home this slob's mother might clean up after him, perhaps you should think about giving her a call. If you do not want to give his mother a call and want to take care of it yourself, you should try cleaning the bathroom with his clothes, or better yet his sheets and pillowcase.

Dear Bob:

My roommates have a major problem doing the dishes in the sink. I have had it and want to toss them out the window (the dishes that is). Another other advice?

Dish Duty

Dear Duty:

My suggestion is to put the dirty dishes in their beds, dresser drawers, closets, or other areas that they live in. This way you don't have to live with the slobbering china and they will soon learn to wash a dish or two.

WNEC'S NEW ADVICE COLUMN

If you have a problem, concern, or just for fun, write to:

Ask Bob
C/O The Westerner
Student Publications Office

Or just slip it under the door and our group of analysts will come up with a solution or commentary.

Who's To Blame?

By Andrea Denise Higgins
A&E Editor

Normally an editorial would not appear in the Arts and Entertainment section, but this is a rare exception. I, by no means, wish to transform this section into a soapbox for students to stand upon and state grievances. After all, this is a section devoted to entertainment and should be an outlet for enjoyment. However, I feel a responsibility to the *Westerner* and to those who work in the entertainment industry.

In the December issue of the *Westerner*, I printed an article entitled "Rap's Bad Rap" by Jr. Lendor, which you will find reprinted on this page. As you will read, Jr. gives his opinion on rap and its reputation. Even though I did not agree with every word he wrote. I printed it because he is entitled to his own opinion. Unfortunately, this article provoked a negative response, as you will see in the printed letter from Tammy-Joy Blair. As with Jr.s' article, I do not agree with everything written by Tammy. However, it is her opinion, and I respect it. Not unlike Jr. and Tammy, I have an opinion of my own.

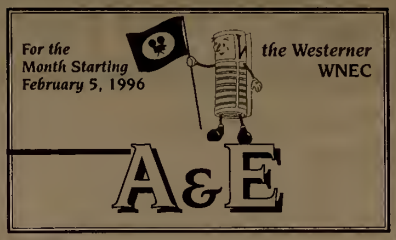
Allow me to explain. As a fan and admirer of music, all music, I feel that songs are unjustly held responsible for the events that occur in the world around them. Rap music does not make people murder cops or tape women. Heavy metal does not encourage a person to commit suicide or abuse drugs. Adult contemporary does not drive people into states of long-term depression. An individual's state of mind provokes such actions, not the lyrics or the music. If they do, well, they were probably going to do it anyway, musically inspired or not.

What we must remember is that human beings, just like you and me, write these lyrics. The music industry is full of diverse individuals with very different backgrounds who, in turn, interpret the world in which they live in various ways. Not all lives are similar, but the one common thread that weaves us all together is the fact that we live in this world together. Unfortunately, lyrics about drugs, rape, gangs, alcohol, murder, and death are a realistic portrayal of what is happening in our society. You can choose to wear a blindfold and deny this fact, using music and lyrics as the catalysts, or you can choose to take off that blindfold, see what is really happening in this world, and understand that songwriters are merely writing about reality.

Morally acceptable or not, this is what is happening in the world. It is 1996 and there are gangs on the street, violent crimes occurring every few minutes, illegitimate children born everyday, and frequent suicides. We do not live in a perfect world. Honestly, if music, television, and movies were not around, I think these incidents would still exist. It is not the content of the lyrics or dialogue that cause problems; it is the people who commit the crimes who cause the problems. There is always someone, somewhere, searching for a person or object to place the blame on. As simple as that concept may seem to the accusers, it is in fact a very complex issue, and one that will not disappear with censorship.

Finally, I must add that rap is in fact music. It takes a great deal of talent and inspiration to write lyrics and melodies, no matter what type of song is being composed. If everyone could do it that easily, everyone would have a recording contract, making this world a little less unique. The mere fact that you do not like it, does not make it any less of a musical creation. That would be like saying, "Beethoven puts me to sleep; how can anyone consider that to be music?" Or, ":Metal music is nothing but loud thumps and screaming. How could anyone call that noise music?" We all have distinctly different tastes and styles. Fortunately, all of these styles are represented in the music industry enabling us to choose and enjoy what we desire.

So maybe rap music is ideally not what parents want their children to listen to. That's fine; do not expose them to it. However, you must realize that your children will be exposed to the content in these songs throughout their everyday lives. Do not push lyrics aside as a mere form of entertainment and enjoyment. They are, in fact, a representation of the world around us.



To The A&E Editor:

Alright, here I go. For anyone who knows me, you probably would say that I am neither shy nor without an opinion. So, naturally, when I read Jr. Lendor's "Rap's Bad Rap" I couldn't wait to make a comment.

My first problem with this point of view is very simply, how can rap be called music? Ever since my children began to speak, together, we would say rhymes to the music; Jack and Jill, Old King Cole, Mary Had a Little Lamb, and not once did a record company executive offer either one of them a contract. Not to mention the fact that no one I know has ever referred to this as "music" or referred to my children as being artists. Believe me, I'd have been glad to take that act on the road.

Another problem I have with Mr. Lendor's viewpoint, although he is entitled to it, is that I don't think that just because someone doesn't agree with your opinion of Rap makes them "ignorant," considering that the word means uneducated. The nice thing about an opinion is that everyone is entitled to one. yes, that includes Jr. Lendor himself.

He quotes Rapper Ice T as saying "these lyrics have no basis in reality . . ." however Mr. Lendor also states that he (as well as other teenagers) finds himself "learning the lyrics and applying them to his life." He says that he will buy a brand of clothing because a song talks about it. This sounds to me like Mr. Lendor can't decide if he wants to apply the lyrics to his life or if he conveniently wants to disregard the fact that he does apply the lyrics to his life. Did I hear someone say double standard?

Who is to say that a young person won't choose to apply those lyrics to their life when Gangsta Rappers are talking about killing, robbing and raping white women? Or they may choose to apply those lyrics and start having sex and produce a child that they are not ready to accept responsibility for; or cause race relations to be even more strained than they already are.

No Jr., no one is saying that you can't have your rap; some rap is fun, we're just saying music should make a person feel good not enrage them and send them on killing sprees, even if it is only "wishful thinking."

Tammy-Joy Blair

Rap's Bad Rap

By Jr. Lendor

When you listen to rap music you usually find yourself either bopping your head or singing the chorus to songs that "ignorant" people call obscene and degrading to certain people. Songs nowadays are made to make money. It's becoming pretty hard for music to appreciate the lyrics of the songs anymore than the messages these provide. Guns, Sex, alcohol, drugs and friends in jail seem to be the topics that catch most people's attention. The majority of rap followers are teenagers. As soon as a song hits the airwaves, you can notice the impact that the song tends to have on these teenagers. As a teen, I find myself learning these lyrics and applying them to my life. If a song talks about the loss of a friend or a brand of clothing you see us missing our friends and buying every piece of clothing under that brand. A perfect example for this scenario could be Method Man's "All I Need." Reports show that 83% of the rap listeners representing a vast majority of high school students were effected by this song. The lyrics of "All I Need" deal with the man, which in this case is Method Man, pleading to his girlfriend and letting her know that she is all he needs to get by in a world full of hypocrites. The impact that this message had on "Teenage Love" was tremendous," couples got back together and loves rekindled. Even though rap has so many positives the same "ignorant" people tend to overlook when rappers promote safe sex, staying in school, AIDS awareness and the stoppage of domestic violence. Instead rappers have been accused of communicating messages with racial or prejudiced overtones, but rappers consider their work to be strictly an art form. The President of the United States, Mr. Bill Clinton, debated the lyrics sung by Ice T & Sister Souljah where they supposedly were promoting the death of white cops, calling them "obscene lyrics." Ice T responded on public television, "These lyrics have no basis in reality and are designed to entertain a wishful thinking audience." In conclusion, rap is just another branch of the music entertainment tree that we have over the years seen grow.

There's No Business Like Show Business...

Write For A&E!

TV CONNECTIONS

Make Reservations For "Party of Five"

By Andrea Denise Higgins
A&E Editor

Every season there are shows that fall victim to the dreaded Nielsen ratings. Some get cancelled, while others survive. Unfortunately, it is usually the quality shows that suffer. Thankfully, the people at FOX realize the potential "Party of Five" has and are giving it a second chance. Now, the entire world is taking notice. Critics from USA Today, Newsweek, and the New York Post have declared this show to be one of the best on television, and TV Guide made it the winner of their "Save Our Shows Viewer Poll." The ultimate honor was bestowed on the cast and writers at this year's Golden Globe Awards, where it was presented with the award for best drama series. If you aren't one of the people who is aware of what all of the excitement is about, read on.

"Party of Five," starring **Matthew Fox, Scott Wolf, Lacey Chabert, and Neve Campbell,** made its debut on FOX during the 1994-95 season. Throughout this first season, the plot line was very simple: it revolved around the Salinger family and their attempt to adjust to life after the loss of their parents. The scripts were touching, and the acting was beautiful, but that was not enough to encourage a following of devoted fans and watchers. As an attempt to solve this problem, the executives at FOX changed the time slot, (it used to air on Monday nights following "Melrose Place"), and the writers began working hard on new scripts.

This season, things have changed. Now the focus is less on growing up without parental guidance and more on coping with the problems of simply growing up. The show could compete with "Melrose Place" and "90210" with some of its topics this season. Charlie (Fox) has been forced to cope with the break-up with his long-time girlfriend Kirsten (Paula Devicq) on the day that they were supposed to get married. Now, in search for the freedom he thought he had lost, he is dating many different women and beginning to realize that not getting married was a mistake.

Julia (Campbell) is dealing with the pressures of her first sexual relationship, a casual relationship, with her ex-boyfriend Justin (Michael Goorjian).

After having a very traumatic first season, Bailey (Wolf) is finally relaxing and enjoying his senior year with his girlfriend Sarah (Jennifer Love Hewitt). Of course, with college applications to fill out and vital decisions to make about his future, his happiness is sure to transform into a great deal of frustration (a common problem with Bailey).

Claudia (Chabert), is changing drastically this season, thanks to the help of a new school and a new friend (a true bad influence). Not wanting to be "different" and friendless, she gives up the violin (an instrument that she has played devotedly for many years), changes her musical taste from classical to alternative, and begins smoking, drinking, and cutting classes. She also experienced her first kiss earlier in the season (a definite "Aww, isn't that cute!" moment).

Meanwhile, the four siblings are enjoying the development of their eighteen month old brother Owen, (played by twins Andrew Scott and Steven Anthony Cavarno), as he grows up. A lot of exciting things have happened, and I am confident that the best is yet to come. There is still another half of a season to continue to develop these story lines!

Are you convinced what a great show this is yet? I could never do the show justice in a review; some things cannot be put into words. So maybe you should find out for yourself by tuning into the FOX network on Wednesday nights at 9:00. All it will take is one episode, and you'll be hooked. I guarantee it.

"Party of Five" background information provided by Sony Pictures via the "Party of Five" homepage.

Party of Five on the World Wide Web!

If you are into computers and the internet, you can check out the "Party of Five" website at **http://www.spe.sony.com/Pictures/tv/party/party.html.** *This site enables you to learn more about the show, its writers, and cast, view a list of show topics for the upcoming week, download photos of your favorite cast member, or send e-mail questions to the stars that will be answered right there on the home page.*

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Drop off your submissions in the envelope on the door of the Student Publications office located in the Campus Center (across from WNEK and next to the Arts and Crafts room). Any questions or suggestions? Call Sarah Burke, Editor of the Review, at 782-1566.

A Night Of Laughter With Martin Lawrence

By Irmina Phillips

WNEC–If you are in the mood to be entertained and tickled to the bone on a boring Sunday night, I would advise you to tune in to Fox 61 (WTIC) for the Martin show. The Martin show, which airs at 8:00 p.m. weekly, portrays the life of the typical married couple.

On the show Martin Lawrence, who plays Martin Payne, is the "around the way, homeboy husband" married to Gina, played by Tisha Campbell.

Martin keeps the audience laughing by additionally playing several characters. For example, Martin plays Sheneneh, the sassy wanna-be sexy neighbor. Not only does Sheneneh assume the role of a "primadonna," but she is always trying to pick fights with Gina and her best friend Pamela, Tachina Arnold.

Another character that Martin portrays in his show is a little boy named Rosco. Rosco is a snotty nose hoodlum who constantly aims at making the lives of others living hell.

Other characters played by Martin include Otis the crooked security officer and Jerome, an eccentric womanizer.

Aside from watching the many characters, you can be humored by watching Martin and Pamela rip at each other's throat. You can laugh your socks off as Martin ridicules his side-kicks Tommy, who has no job, and Cole, who has the sense of a dodo bird.

After getting a dose of the Martin Lawrence show, (tentatively titled Martin), you would hate for your Sunday night to end. So just hold on to your pants and be patient for next Sunday.

Toy Story

By Charlie Beaupre

Rated PG
4 STARS!

Toy Story by Disney is a cute film. It is the first fully animated computer movie to hit the market! It took about a year and a half to fully compile all the graphics needed to make the movie on over 20 computers running together at the same time!

The main character's name is Woody, who has the voice of Tom Hanks. Buzz Lightyear, the new toy, has the voice of Tim Allen. Along with this cast of major stars is Annie Potts from "Designing Women" as Little Bo Peep. Mr. Potato Head is "Cliff Clavin" from "Cheers".

This movie has a great basic storyline that is easy to follow while you are laughing so hard! This is NOT just a kid's movie. Everyone that I've talked to thinks just because it is PG that it is too childish.

Join Buzz and Woody on their adventure of trying to make it back home safely.

There's a great screen saver that you can buy from Disney after you've seen the movie to recapture the feeling of Buzz and Woody getting into trouble! There's also a web page that you can access to get all kinds of goodies from pictures, to sound clips, to actual movie clips! The address is http://www.toystory.com.

Grumpier, Older, and Funnier!!!

By Mark Orzell

People say that sequels usually are not as good as the original movie. In most cases this is probably true; however, Grumpier Old Men, directed by Howard Deutch, is just as funny as the original, Grumpy Old Men.

The movie takes us back to lovely Wabasha, Minn. This time around it's in the summertime, and Wabasha is hopping.

Our old friend John Gustafson (Jack Lemmon) and Max Goldman (Walter Matthau) get along through most of the film. John is living happily with his wife, Ariel (Ann-Margret); Max's son Jacob (Kevin Pollak) and John's daughter Melanie (Daryl Hannah) plan on getting married.

The plot thickens when Maria (Sophia Loren) and her Mama (Ann Guilbert) move into town and plan to change the old bait shop into a restaurant.

Max instantly falls in love, and the movie turns into a hilarious courtship between Max and Maria.

Grandpa Gustafson (Burgess Meredith at age 88) and Mama Regetti have a little fling themselves. Grandpa adds to the humor of the movie by adding usual womanizing actions such as chasing women around the grocery store.

In conclusion, go see this movie; you will enjoy it. Do yourself a favor and stay to watch the credits where you will see all the bloopers and joke lines that didn't make the original film.

Patra: Scent of Attraction

By Jesse Knowlin

While some may say that **Patra**'s album Scent of Attraction is worth getting a sniff of, others may say, after thoroughly listening to it, that maybe she should've named this LP "Scent of Dissatisfaction." I would have to personally take sides with the critics this time for the simple fact that the production on the majority of Scent of Attraction could have been much better.

For example, on **"Hot Stuff"**, **Patra** totally loses her dancehall appeal with a song that in my opinion should have been a bonus track, or better yet, not on the album at all. Maybe **"Hot Stuff"** could have had a little potential if someone other than **Hurby Luvbug** (producer of **Salt 'N' Pepa**) would have put more time and effort into this track.

Might I add that **Salt 'N' Pepa**, who made a guest appearance on **"Hot Stuff"**, failed to come through in **Patra**'s time of need. Instead of spicing up **"Hot Stuff"**, a dash of **Salt 'N' Pepa** only makes Scent of Attraction surprisingly, more distasteful to the ear.

Another flaw that I found was the fact that **Patra** did an awful lot of sampling as well. Her first single **"Pull up To My Bumper"** was formerly sung by **Grace Jones**. Now if you're going to sample or remake a certain song, at least choose a song that has some flava to it and was a hit. The remix of **"Pull Up To My Bumper"** (not on the album), which had more reggae flava to it, actually did better than the original versions.

On **"Goin' 2 The Chapel"**, a sample of **Sade's "Sweetest Tabuo"** could be heard. Despite the sampling. **"Goin 2 The Chapel"** could be a possible chart-topper only because **Patra's** sexy, sultry voice and the smooth, mellow backgrounds of Sade, happens to make a really good blend together.

Other cuts that shine on Scent of Attraction include the second single **"Dip & Fall Back"**, which brings **Patra** back tu her dancehall roots and shows her fans that she still has a little bit of that Jamaican fuel left in her engine.

The title track which is a duet with "Mr. Nastyman" himself, **Aaron Hall** is somewhat great for those who are in the mood for romance, and could even become a hit as well.

Lyrically, let me make it clear that **Patra** still reigns as queen of the pack, but the productivity only makes her look like the joker. Although it is hard to understand what **Patra** is saying, it is evident that all of the tracks basically talk about the same thing (sex) which gets tiring after the first few songs.

In addition to that, most of the chorus lines that are able to be understood is just plain comy for the most part. My advice to **Patra** would be to search harder for producers next time and use some original material, or be prepared to give up her throne as the queen of dancehall/reggae.

The Words Of A Storyteller

By Andrea Denise Higgins
A&E Editor

When I first heard the debut single, "Nobody Knows," by **The Tony Rich Project**, I thought Babyface had a new song out. The musical arrangements were familiar (reminiscent of "When Can I See You"), and the voice was amazingly similar. However, as I listened further, I realized that this was not Babyface at all. That is when my curiosity piqued. I wanted to know who this artist was, where he had come from, and when I could hold his entire CD in my hands. To summarize, I was hooked. Now, I hold his entire debut CD, Words (LaFace Records), in my hands and I predict big things from **Tony Rich.**

Do not disregard **The Tony Rich Pruject** and think that this is annther attempt at producing a Babyface clone. If you do, you will miss out on a lot. **Tony Rich** is an extremely talented singer, musician, songwriter and producer who credits Prince, Madonna, the Gap Band, and Bruce Springstein as a few of his musical influences. With a list as dverse as that, his music is sure to be just as eclectic. And it is. Words is a blend of pop, R&B, country, and folk. A very impressive, yet bold, mix for his debut project.

Despite the fact that **Tony Rich** is new to the spotlight, he certainly is not a stranger to the music industry. Prior tu signing a recording contract with LaFace, he worked behind the scenes writing and producing for other artists. Among some of his best known work, are remixes of Tony Braxton's "You Mean The World To Me" and TLC's "Red Light Special," along with original songs for albums by Pebbles, A Few Good Men, Johnny Gill, and Boyz II Men ("I Sit Away," featured on their multi-platinum II album). Needless to say, he has a very impressive resume.

Tony Rich has a recognizable gift. A gift that Antonio "L.A." Reid recognized, and a gift that the world is about to realize. **Tuny Rich** doesn't just write songs, he tells stories. His lyrics are so deep and meaningful that it is impossible to walk away from his music enipty-handed. He has written lyrics that are relatable and inspirational.

Wnrds covers a wide variety of human emotion, from fatal attraction as told in "Like A Woman" ("The things we'll do/Will make you feel like a woman/Falling in love with a man/She doesn't even know"); to the obvious heartbreak of a relationship falling apart in his debut single "Nobody Knows" ("I pretended I'm glad you went away/These four walls clnsin' more every day/And I'm dying inside/And nobody knows it but me"); to coping with the harsh blows of fate in a world where it is difficult to survive in "Grass Is Green" ("And ain't nobody here when I'm goin' thrugh/I can't trust what I'll do to me/'Cause I have lonely dreams/When your grass is green"); to the painful reality of death conveyed in the lyrics of "Leavin'" ("Said I be leavin'/I'm louking for my wings in the sky/My journey's long over/And my body's tired"). No matter who you are, or what you have been through, **Tony Rich** most likely sings about it.

Tony Rich has added a personal touch to his songs that is refreshing. Often times, songs sound mechanically forced by artists who have no idea what they are singing about. Tony says of his songs, "This music is very personal to me and the songs reflect that I have problems just like everyone else. By writing and singing, I can release those problems . . . I can feel them lifting when I share them through my music. The bottom line is I intend to reach people with my songs." His objective with Words was very clear and came across beautifully.

I could never come up with enuugh words of praise for **The Tony Rich Pruject**. Words is an appropriate title for this CD, because the words are what draw me into each song. His lyrics are thoughtful and profound. He is almost poetic! All of that, combined with enjoyable music and a soothing singing voice make Words an incredible CD.

Quotes and background information provided by LaFace Records. Lyrics taken from the CD liner notes of Words.

We're Taking Bets That . . .

By Gregory S. Madrid

* your winter break was too long, but once you got back you wanted to go home again.
* W.N.E.C.'s **Unplugged** was really plugged in this year.
* I told you it was going to snow a lot this winter, but I never said how long it would stay.
* W.N.E.C. Bowling Team's computer dating service may be the best chance for many W.N.E.C. students to get a date.
* Almond Joy would be a waste of candy without nuts.
* it's great that the WNEC cheerleaders can't use the excuse that "it's too cold" not to cheer anymore.
* Bright Nights at Forest Park was worth the price of admission.
* close talkers scare you.
*the UCONN women Huskies basketball team is no longer invincible, but they still have the talent to go all the way.
* you don't use the word **supple** enough in your vocabulary.
* (I read this off of a door on the 3rd floor of Berkshire) isn't it weird when guys try to tongue kiss? (I'm sure I'm going to get quite a reaction from this one.)
* it's time for a moment of silence for Greg Menton, the UMASS swimmer, who died recently at a swim meet.
* Marcus Camby going down brought scary images of Reggie Lewis to a lot of New England fans.

Super Bowl/Friends Section
* you only watched the Super Bowl for the commercials.
* Steeler fans think Neil O'Donnell might have been paid off to throw those two interceptions.
* you loved the one hour **Friends** after the Super Bowl.
* you're glad that it wasn't a blowout this year.
* you were glad to see Marcel back.
* Pepsi commercials were the best at the Super Bowl.
* Julia Ross actually put on a pretty good halftime show.
* it seems hard to believe, but the Steelers actually had more yards than the Cowboys, both rushing and receiving.
* the fourth quarter scared a lot of Cowboy fans.
* you don't want to get stuck in a bathroom stall wearing just panties.
* if you ever play **Balderdash,** pray that you get the word **unguiculate**. It makes the game a real lot of fun.
* the Big Chill '96 is going to be a great week.
* the Hartford Whalers are one of the hottest teams in the NHL.
* you really miss **Calvin & Hobbes.**
* Doron Sheffer is the best point guard in the country over 6'1".
* it's scary when NBC is touting **Gullliver's Travels** as the event of February.
* Softball Marathon will be back this year.
* once you are in debt it is almost impossible to get out.
* you still remember where you were when the **Challenger** exploded.
* you're glad baseball's Spring training is only a few weeks away.
* even if you have someone Valentine's Day is still a sucky holiday.
* not too many groups could pull off a dnuble CD, but the Smashing Pumpkins have done a great job.
* **Party of Five** is the best Generation X drama nn television.
* you're getting old if you remember a dance floor and a DJ at Mory's.
* the new puck for the NHL is pretty neat.
* the W.N.E.C. men's volleyball team warm-ups are a little too blue.
* it's important to have soft lips.
* you can't figure out why many WNEC students have chosen **The Well** as their new favorite bar. (Long live the Roadhouse!!)
* a lot of you missed a really great James Taylor tribute by Dave Binder.
* Rod Woodson proved he is one of the most amazing athletes in the NFL by returning from a major injury in less than a season.
* Springfield Cinemas is great now that every movie is only $4.00, though you will never find a parking space on weekends.
* the Political Science Club made a great choice in changing its name to the Political Science Association.
* Dane Cook on February 7th was a must see for all of WNEC.
* the Chicago Bulls are going to run away with the NBA Championship.
* WNEK is back on the air with Nai & Madrid every Wednesday morning at 10 a.m.
* C.A.B. has a lot of awesome events happening this semester.
* the SI Swimsuit issue is definitely awesome this year.
* you can't wait for Spring Break.
* WNEC wrestling has its best team in almost 3 years.
* that February 29th should be national overalls day.
* it would be nice to have a Spring Concert.
* now that he was traded to the L.A. Kings Kevin Stevens may have a 50 goal season.
* it's going to be interesting seeing Bill Walsh on the 49ers sideline again.
* Friday's in the snack bar has become a pretty popular event lately.
* you're getting tired of seeing that stupid McDonald's commercial with the natives in a boat.
* Nebraska's Tommy Frazier could be the next Kordell Stewart.
* the next time it snows you should grab a food service tray and go sledding.
* you're getting old if you remember the old G-Force cartoon with Kee-op, Tiny, Princess, Jason, and Mark.
* if you are playing the Boston Celtics you are practically guaranteed to score 100 points.
* you think it looks like W.N.E.C.'s student patrol does more work than Public Safety sometimes.
* it's about time that Barry Manilow made a big comeback.
* Oasis' new CD is great and maybe the resurgence of British rock.
* Heathcliff Slocumb would look great in a Red Sox uniform.
* it's time for W.N.E.C.'s version of the Big East (intramural basketball) to start heating up.
* the ESPY's is the best award show on television/
* if it's funny once it's funny 10,000 times.
* the new Christian Slater and John Travolta movie **Broken Arrow** is a sure hit.
* it's bad luck to take a solid brown tray in Food Service.
* it's bad luck to take a solid brown tray in Food Service.
* it's refreshing to see a boxer like Terry Norris, who is willing to fight practically every month to defend his title.
* 3:00 a.m. fire alarms in the Residence Halls really piss you off.
* Jimmy Johnson can't wait till his Miami Dolphins meet the Cowboys next season.
* it's not cool to rip down bulletin boards.
* you're looking for Mark and Susan to hook up on ER.
* you're getting old if you remember **Shannon's** as a W.N.E.C. hot spot.
* the Great One would look great in a St. Louis Blues uniform.
* Gateway parties are just not the way they used to be.
* it's nice seeing Travis Best in an Indiana Pacers uniform.
* seniors can't believe that the 96 days party is just around the corner.

Are Coaches Being Too Cautious?

By Sean Weinburg

In recent weeks, there has been an increase in talk concerning the health of athletes. Many people feel that doctors and coaches are becoming too cautious when it comes to the physical condition of people, at the college and professional levels, who participate in sports.

The event that reignited this issue occurred on January 14th, just prior to a basketball game between UMass and St. Bonaventure. UMass center Marcus Camby collapsed and remained lying on the ground for over 10 minutes. After undergoing countless tests at two different hospitals, as well as being kept out of the lineup for a couple of weeks, there were complaints that too much was being made of Camby's condition.

Maybe the coaches and doctors were being overly cautious, that perhaps it was just a simple fainting spell. However, there have been too many tragic cases in the recent past to have handled this situation any other way. Within the past six years, there have been two major stories involving the deaths of two basketball players. Hank Gathers and Reggie Lewis had both collapsed on the basketball court due to heart conditions, and died as a result.

Even more recently was the tragic death of another UMass athlete, Greg Menton. Menton died of an apparent heart attack during a swim meet. These tragedies should demonstrate that there is no such thing as being overly cautious when an athlete collapses.

The way in which the Marcus Camby situation was handled should be used as an example when any athlete collapses in the future. Whether it be at the college, high school, or professional levels, such incidents should be taken very seriously. All possible causes should be tested, no matter how long it takes. This is not to insinuate that all cases of players passing out will be caused by fatal heart conditions. Most of these cases will be minor ones that will not have fatal results. However, there have been enough tragedies in the recent past to warrant extra medical caution when it comes to the health of athletes.

Ask Bob:

WNEC'S NEW ADVICE COLUMN

If you have a problem, concern, or just for fun, write to:

Ask Bob
C/O The Westerner
Student Publications Office

Or just slip it under the door and our group of analysts will come up with a solution or commentary.

Rolling Onto The National Scene

By Ric Goetz

WNEC–The little respected WNEC bowling team recently went on the road to test their skills against some of *the* best teams in the country–Yes, the country, not just in Div.. III.

The team is not only one of the oldest teams at WNEC, but also one of the most successful. WNEC bowling has compiled a 76-25-3 record, total men and women over the past three seasons.

The teams, both the men and the women, drove a WNEC van on a six hour ride to Atlantic City, NJ to compete in the two most competitive tournaments on the East Coast.

The first day, after the six hour van ride, the teams bowled in the 9th annual Atlantic City Collegiate Invitational, a tournament that awards over $6,000 in scholarships each year.

The teams had enough time to take showers and change into the bowling shirts, and it was off to the Showboat Hotel & Casino, the tournament site. Both teams would compete in the afternoon squad, and bowl three games.

Men and women both started slowly, possibly as a result of the long drive. At the end of the first day, each squad was well in the rear of the pack. According to one WNEC bowler, "Maybe it was the driving; maybe it was our inexperience, but whatever it was, it was disappointing." Senior Co-Captain Pat Keating commented, "About the only positive thing was that we became more unified; we learned a lot about ourselves and our team. It was kind of like being refined by the fire or something."

The men and women alike turned up the intensity on the second day. The men finished 37th overall, in a field that included nine top twenty teams. The women finished ninth, just behind 16th ranked Vincennes University.

On days three and four, the teams were in nearby Turnersville, NJ, where they competed in the Brunswick Northeast Collegiate Showdown. The women's team got off to a terrific start; they were in fourth place at one point in the contest.

Eventually, the girls finished in eight place, ahead of 15th ranked University Wisconsin-Whitewater. The men who had their troubles late in the first round, finished strongly on the last day, with a 1,065 in the final round, the fourth highest total of the day. The strong finish earned them 17th place in the 40 plus team field, ahead of four top twenty teams.

Coach Dick Burns said, "The Goal was to prove that we belonged at these sort of events, that we could compete with this caliber of (opponents)." Pete Fowler stated later, "We proved at Turnersville that we belong by beating teams like Indiana (ranked 5th) and Ohio State (ranked 13th) in head to head competition."

The women also know that they are capable of making post season waves. Having finished in the middle of a very tough group of teams, while really not being on the top of their games, the ladies are very excited about the future of WNEC bowling.

The future may look even brighter if Freshman Kelli Cudmore continues to turn in performances like the ones in NJ. The newcomer finished 15th in Atlantic City and 18th in Turnersville. Considering the number of competitors, 88 and 66 respectively, that is pretty impressive.

The men's Co-Captain, Sean Kilburn finished 67th in the 274 man all events field in Atlantic City.

Both the men's and women's bowling teams continued their phenomenal seasons recently at a conference match in Newburgh, NY.

Both teams are currently in first place in their respective conferences. The women's team is off to an incredible 12-0 record against conference opponents. The men are off to a 7-1 start.

The women have piled up 137.5 points in their twelve matches and lead second place UMass/Lowell by an astounding 63.5 points. The men lead WPI by 28.5 at just past the half way point.

The men have been led by Senior Bob Bottume and Freshman Pete Fowler. Bottume from Pittsfield, MA leads the conference in match points, winning 19 of 24 matches for the Golden Bears.

Pete Fowler, of Milford, CT is leading the team in average, with a 194. Fowler also rolled 695 as he and his doubles partner, Sean Kilburn of Keene, NH combined for 1256, the best so far this season. The 695 by Fowler is the second highest three game set in the conference currently.

The men's team defeated third place UMass/Lowell 23-4 in the team event to start the day. In the doubles, the team survived a surge by West Point to win narrowly, 18.5-8.5.

The women's team has thoroughly dominated the conference the entire season, and this latest match was not the exception. The women rolled to quick victories over UMass/Lowell, WPI, and Coast Guard Academy to achieve their 12-0 record.

The ladies are receiving strong performances week after week from senior Co-Captain, Anne-Marie Gravel. The Sophomore from Lewiston, ME is averaging 170 and has won 19 of 24 matches.

Surprisingly, a lot of the team's supporting roles are filled by first year players. Carey Kenyan, a Junior transfer student leads the team in average with 172 in her first year in collegiate competition. Jamie Barras, a true Freshman, has won 20 of 23 matches, a league high.

The ladies have some obstacles to overcome, namely injuries. The team recently competed without senior Co-Captain Carey Monkowski, who is out with back problems. Freshman Kelly Cudmore, who has contributed 12.5 match points, sat out the final two games of the tournament with a sore arm. She is expected to return to the starting lineup for the next conference match.

With the conference all but locked up, the ladies are looking forward to post season play. This is a team that has somehow found a way to "gel" as unit, while barely getting a chance to know one another.

Both squads have key conference matches coming up, as well as other non-conference events coming up against national contenders. On January 27, the teams competed in a conference match at Wilbraham Ten Pin, and on the 3rd and 4th of February they travelled to Schenectady, NY.

Both teams are also planning to go to the ACU-I national tournament in Omaha, Nebraska. With the successes of these athletes, it is hard to understand why nobody even knows WNEC has a bowling team.

ESPN SportsCenter: "Number One For Sports Information"

WNEC–For any sports fan who is fortunate enough to have cable TV here at WNEC, ESPN's SportsCenter is the number one program for sports information, news, and highlights. Whether you're into basketball, baseball, football, hockey, golf, tennis, or even college sports, SportsCenter brings you all of your favorite teams or players that you just don't get from your ordinary news station.

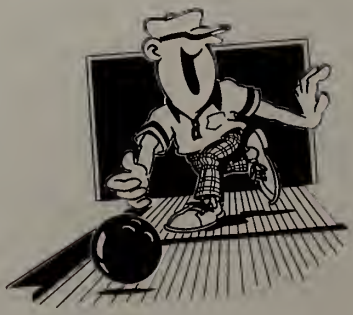
SportsCenter, which airs continuously all morning long, allows you to tune in at anytime, whether you're just waking up, or just walking in from your AM class to catch all of last night's scores.

SportsCenter also airs at 6:30 p.m. with a review of all the news of the day and a segment they call Cover Story, which explores deep into a sports topic of national interest.

And for every die hard fan who can't wait until Dan Patrick and Keith Oberman make you laugh, SportsCenter comes "right back at ya" at 11:30 p.m.

This half hour of the night's sports news and highlights is something you don't want to miss. Dan and Keith are famous for their entertaining way of bringing you highlights from all sporting events. As student Darren Pratt says, "Their style of commenting on plays and performances is hilarious."

So if you watch, keep watching. If not, tune in for some sports entertainment that is only on SportsCenter.



:01 Second To Go

By Gregory S. Madrid

WNEC–On November 30, 1005 Western New England College had its annual intramural flag football championship game. It featured the Assorted Cashew Heads against the Silk Muffin Balls. It was the second time they had met this season with the Silk Muffin Balls winning the first on a last second bomb.

The Assorted Cashew Heads came out firing, but the defense led by Rich "Nice" Elliot and Pete DiMarco (1 int) held them in check. The Silk Muffin Balls were dealt a big setback when quarterback Karl Branson went down with a leg injury. He was replaced by Jeff Potter.

The Silk Muffin Balls had a two touchdown lead with about 5 minutes to go. They were led back almost single handedly by Sean Matthews who had 2 touchdowns and an interception in the final 5 minutes.

With the score tied and about :40 seconds left to play Jeff Potter intercepted the ball at midfield and led the charge back. He completed a pass across the middle and called time out with :01 second left on the clock. Captain DiMarco said to his players that if Potter could pull this off he would "cook him dinner all next semester." The words had barely left his mouth when Potter completed a twenty yard pass to Chris Rushin to win the game.

It was a long hard season and all the teams should be congratulated. Special thanks goes out to Coach Downes and his staff (Pat Gerety, Kevin McCoy, and Tom Grasso) for putting together a fine season.

The World Of Intramurals

By Ryan Thomas

Remarkably hidden in the realm of physical activity at WNEC lies the world of Intramurals. This popular event that remains prominent in most colleges today, is a revelation because of the attention it creates.

Intramurals at WNEC are coordinated by Coach Downs, Assistant Athletic Director. Second semester initiates a shift from flag football and the sloppy expanses of the tundra into the depths of the HLC for basketball.

As a prelude to March Madness, College Basketball's NCAA championships, WNEC students don their best sneakers, jerseys and shorts. With each bounce, jump or slam WNEC students immerse themselves in fun, competition, and team work.

Intramurals are for many a chance to participate in extracurricular activities despite not playing a varsity sport. Coach Downes states, "The keys to intramural sports are having fun and participating."

In intramural sorts, the individual drive and effort of the players is impressive. Coach Downes said that while some might disagree, intramurals are not taken as serious as Varsity Sports.

The jury is in! Intramural sports are well liked and extremely fun. Douglas Kiss, a three year intramural basketball player states, "I like that it's so competitive, but students still have time for fun."

When the basketball courts clear and a champion is crowned with his honorary T-shirt, many are disappointed but just retool for floor hockey, the next intramural sport. Mike Nizzardo, a long time intramural player, urges the student body to support intramural sports.

W.N.E.C. Wrestling: Athletics At Its Finest

By Gregory Madrid

WNEC–Western New England College wrestling is again off to a wonderful start with a 10-2 record. They are coached by Pete Maldanado, who is in his first season as head coach.

The Golden Bears are led by captains Bill Simpson, Byron Joy, Dave Osiecki, and Jesse Morrison. Simpson commented that, "We have a lot of good freshmen, and with hard work it looks like we are going to have a good season."

Their only losses came to a tough DelVal team and Roger Williams. W.N.E.C. just recently avenged the Roger Williams loss with a 30 to 15 victory. "We have pulled together as a family to beat our opponents," said Dave Osiecki.

There are still many meets left and the Golden Bear wrestlers still have a long way to go before proving themselves as one of the great wrestling teams in W.N.E.C. history. Jesse Morrison said, "All it takes is all you got," and the W.N.E.C. wrestlers are giving it all they got.

Remember when...

What's Up With The HCC?

By Tyler Flemming

WNEC–Prior to the fall semester of 1993, physical activity at Westem New England College was conducted either outside or at Rivers Gym. This left a lot to be desired, according to student athletes and the student population in general who were here at that time.

The old gym had only a basketball court and some weights, which were supposed to accommodate the needs of 2000 full time undergraduate students, in addition to the law school.

In the fall semester of 1993, the HLC opened. This offered an opportunity for current students,but also changed the entire view of the school from the perspective of students considering attending here. People saw that this new facility would offer more to do and would accommodate more people.

Activities at the Healthful Living Center gave the school a new dimension that could not have been realized at Rivers Gym. It is used not only for athletic events, but also as a forum for presentations to students, orientations and musical acts.

Aerobics instruction is offered at the HLC both in the pool and in the aerobics room. Cindy Costanzo teaches classes three times a week.

Intramural basketball has begun for undergraduate students, with two divisions for different skill levels.

WNEC Hockey's Pucking It Up

By Todd McDonald

WNEC–On January 23, the Golden Bears ice hockey team played a game that may have been a bright spot in an otherwise frustrating season.

The team battled against Suffolk University and emerged with a 12-1 victory, which increased the Bears record to 5 and 9.

Many of the players feel that this could possibly be a turning point in the season. WNEC defenseman, David Mueller said, "The win over Suffolk was a confidence booster. It should help us going into Saturday's game against Curry College, who is playing well this season."

Senior captain Kevin McCoy stated, "We are not out of anything yet. We have to show up to the rink ready to play each and every night because anything can happen."

WNEC is led in scoring by captains Ryan Bertrand and Brian McNully, as well as Junior forward Ryan Carney.

The Golden Bears hope to finish their season strong. Upcoming home games include Curry College on February 10.

Swim Team Accomplishment!!!

By Dan Neri
Co-Sport Editor

The Western New England College Men's and Women's Swimming Teams hosted Keene State College on January 27, 1996. Despite a close loss, personal records as well as school records were broken!

The Women's team put in an outstanding effort, winning 6 events and breaking five school records, despite a 111-83 loss.

The 200 Medley Relay, consisting of freshmen, Emily Alland, Samantha Lussier, Patty Luncz and sophomore Co-Captain Jennifer Tait compiled a winning time of 2:04.31 and managed to break the school record by 7 1/100th of a second!

Other first place finishes went to Jennifer Tait in the 100 yard breastroke in a time of 1:20.38, Emily Alland who captured the 200 IM and the 100 yard backstroke with times of 2:24.58 and 1:04.68 respectively, broke the school record in each of these events.

Patty Luncz also set school records in the 200 freestyle with a winning time of 2:09.81 and the 100 butterfly in a time 1:05.18. Head coach Mary Anne Gerzanick stated, "These were outstanding swims with excellent times. The Women have been working very hard and it's now starting to pay off."

With a team consisting of three sophomores and six freshmen, the women's team has a very bright future.

The Men's team was defeated by a score of 95-81. They managed to capture 3 first place finishes: Tri-Captains Chris LaPoint, Ryan Blair and Dan Neri each won their respected events.

Senior Captain Ryan Blair captured first place in the 100 yard butterfly with a time of 57:87 and broke his own school record! Senior Captain Chris LaPoint won the 100 yard breastroke in a time of 1:17.21, and Sophomore Captain Dan Neri took the 500 yard freestyle in a time of 6:15.39. Coach Gerzanick states "As the WNEC swim team nears the end of its season, the campus community can be assured that these student-athletes have put in a gallant effort over their 6 month season!"

The pool at the HLC looks lonely without the WNEC Swim Team in it.

Dean's Lists Students Page 2

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Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

the Westerner

February 27, 1996

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 41 / Issue 3

WNEC Offers Networking Trips

By Tony Kempesty
Layout Editor

Western New England College is inviting students to different upcoming networking trips to Boston and the new downtown Springfield WNEC campus respectively. The Boston trip, which was originally scheduled for March 6, has been rescheduled to April 10. The original April 10 Hartford trip has been rescheduled and relocated to the downtown Springfield WNEC campus on June 12. The schedules have changed, but the valuable advice of networking will still be present.

On Wednesday, January 31, at 7:00 p.m. in dining room B, WNEC hosted a very successful networking event, sponsored by Career and Human Resources. There was an entire host of alumni present at this event prepared to offer advice and valuable tips to students who would be in search of jobs after graduation.

The event was for juniors and seniors, and professional dress was required to enhance the importance of a job search. All majors were welcome to this event as there were representatives for Business, Engineering, Psychology, Criminal Justice, and Government, as well as other majors. The alumni helped students immensely by looking at resumes and answering questions.

The next networking event will be April 10 in Boston, Massachusetts. Transportation will be provided for this event. The agenda for this event will be held in much the same fashion as the January 31 program. Again there will be a host of alumni, of which there is expected to be a large number.

Even though there will be a lot of alumni, it is expected that fewer students will attend because of the longer distance. If certain alumni are unable to attend, there will be an opportunity for students to get in touch with them. Again, students attending should bring resumes and dress professionally.

The networking is still not over yet. On Wednesday, June 12, there will be a networking event at the new WNEC downtown campus in Springfield. This event

Continued on Page 4

Gateway dryers? Are they really living up to students needs?

WNEC is All WET!

By Erik K. Foubert and Daniel J. Neri

For years now, the laundry facilities at WNEC have been substandard. The vendor, MacRay Inc., has been in breach of contract for their maintenance obligations. When investigating this article, the *Westerner* has learned that WNEC is paid to have these machines on campus. The explanation that has come about says that all the money goes for upkeep of water, electricity and overall facilities. When Beth Ruppenthal was questioned by RHA Gateway President, Kevin Robbins, Ms. Ruppenthal said, "I don't have time to call them." Mr. Robbins was quite irritated with this response and was chastised for his "negativity". A similar query was posed to Tom Wozniak and his response was, "There is a very limited amount of complaints coming in," to make it a major concern.

A group of concerned students have assembled to solve this problem. These students began by contacting Residence Life, to obtain the customer service telephone number, and they had no knowledge of what it is. They referred these students to the number on the machine and WNEC's Purchasing office. The students then contacted Purchasing and this department had also no knowledge of the number. These students also contacted Facilities Management and the local Yellow Pages. There was no luck on any of these "resources." Many of the students are concerned that the departments that are supposed to be handling this vendor account have no known means of communication with the vendor.

One student did contact the vendor and found the company very helpful. They immediately dispatched a maintenance truck and offered to send a representative to the weekly RHA meeting. The intention is to remove the current dryers with high capacity appliances that can handle the volume of the student population.

The students have been circulating surveys to establish the students feelings toward the facilities here at WNEC. The responses will be given to Residence Life in the form of a grievance so that immediate reconciliation of this issue can be considered without haste. For more information, ideas, or complaints contact the RHA office at 782-1579, and ask for Dan Neri.

Peer Advisors: A *Valuable* Resource

By Dean Zern and Daniel P. McLaughlin

The transition from high school to college may be one of the most challenging experiences that a student will handle. College is a new step on life's journey, and it can be one of life's great adventures. Students are exposed to new ideas, are challenged both inside and outside of the classroom and are faced with making friends. But students are not alone. As students begin what promises to be an exciting ride at Western New England College, there is no doubt they will have many questions and concerns that need to be addressed. One of the most valuable of resources will be that of a Peer Advisor.

Peer Advisors are a group of currently enrolled students who have been trained to help new students adjust to their new environment. Peer Advisors have been through the adjustment process and can identify with the feelings new students are experiencing. Peer Advisors are committed to student success. Peer Advisors are not only available for the first week or so, but are available throughout the first year. If life seems stressful and, at times, it will, the Peer Advisor will be there. If students are discouraged about classes or motivation is failing, the Peer Advisor will be there. Peer Advisors give students a shoulder to cry on, a pat on the back when success is achieved, a boost when feeling down, and an ear to listen.

Being a Peer Advisor is a challenge. It can be a stressful position, but with any challenge comes corresponding reward. There are no monetary rewards. Peer Advisors do not get paid. Peer Advisors are rewarded in seeing a new student feel comfortable in the college environment and knowing that in some way they had a part in that adjustment. Peer Advisors share in success and feel the disappointment of failure of each advisee. Peer Advisors are mentors who work to see that each and every new student succeeds at Western New England College. Being a Peer Advisor is one of the most unique opportunities available. It is without a doubt the toughest job you will ever love.

Congratulations to the students who made Dean's List, Fall Semester 1995! We're Proud of You!

Kristen C. Abrams
Michael W. Flaherty, Jr.
Melissa A. Gardner
David B. Maio
Emily M. Neale
Todd J. Pula
Michael A. Cerutti
Christie M. Jenchuk
Sandina M. Morello
Laurie A. Padykula
Donald J. Peyson
Kelley M. Perigord
Bryan K. Riggott
Amy S. Craig
Nicole M. Dupuis
Yunyu Lin
Christine A. Phillips
Carrie E. Reynolds
Brian T. Zicko
Michael R. Calvario
Sarah J. Nepus
Laura M. Lebiedz
Assunta E. Albano
Stacie J. Meyer
Paul W. Dalay
Heather P. Kenney
Becky M. Laubar
Jenna L. Graham
Robert S. Medine
Gina P. Barroso
Dara B. DeGray
Jennifer L. Paquin
Allison M. Bard
Kimberly M. Case
Brandy L. Wester
Cristina M. Ianello
Helder M. Carqueira
Mark A. Prouty
Courtney L. Still
Kristin E. Lanty
Jeffrey P. Hungerter
Amie K. Jones
Daniel P. Novotney
Paul T. Freitag
Joshua A. Pfeil
David N. Friedman
Darbie E. Driscoll
Shannon Hartnett
Thomas Leone
Nancy J. Pencolosi
Michael W. Doolan
K. Jonas N. Svalin
Mathew J. Chnsty
Keith M. Doucette
John J. Camerote
Lisa J. Pedro
Andrea C. Salemme
Deborah J. Vercellone
Michael H. Jalison
Eileen B. Monaghan
Sara M. Profitt
Jason C. Bare
Phyllis A. DellaRose
Benjamin M. Coyle
Gwendolyn J. Rivera
Joseph V. Silvestrini
Tuyen T. Nguyen
Christopher M. Wszolek
Brian E. Banas
Robert J. Cassin
Linda M. Porowski
Erica M. Scollero
Brian J. Stromwell
Michael S. Wood
Matthew C. Lyons
Diane M. Raczkowski
Melissa L. Witaszek
Bryan M. Wood
Melissa K. Griswold
Jennifer K. Benafede
Robert H. Brainard III
Driskell C. Farquharson
Sara B. Grunin
Todd M. Hebert
Michael A. Krepcio
Kristen M. Mascola
Keith V. O'Rourke
Christopher G. Schmidt
Brian D. Sullivan
Christine E. Juchno
Joanne J. Kowal
Chantal A. Pere
Jaime L. Smith
Debra Jean Cipkala
Kellienne Cudmore
Kevin G. Eknaian
Elia M. Pizarro
Peter J. Wicker
Adam B. Netzer
Tracy L. Bartus
Michael M. DuBois
Ting T. Giang
Lynelle I. Labbee
Kema A. Lesuer
Robert M. Moore
Carrie A. Tordonato
Ellen M. Trotter
Robert T. Bottume
Beau D. Highfill
Miguel F. Ribeiro
Jill D. Scarpo
Jason R. Shedd
Michael D. Brule
Christine M. Filkoski
David P. Desmarais
Elizabeth J. Couchon
Nichole A. Riek
Aleksandr Korniyenko
Philip J. Bowen
Theodosios Kountotsis
Mark J. MacInnis
Richard P. Heinemann
Melanie B. Weed
Keith R. Senecal
Craig D. Smith
David J. Kuslak
Daniel R. Ball
Alan K. Bilodeau
Paul M. Doyon
Andrew W. Wayner
Dwight W. Darmand
Carolyn E. Hoffman
Michael R. Perrault
Jennifer M. Roy
James E. Everhart III
Jessa J. Lapomardo
Kevin F. St. Georges
Michael P. Nizzardo
Joshua M. Price
Craig Brown
Gregory P. Guyette
Stephan A. Bergeron
Joseph P. Colebourn
Eric T. Myers
Thi K. Bui
John P. D Malley
Daniel Sedzikowski
Devin J. McCarthy
Andrew J. Barnes
Jason A. Malek
David K. Adams
Adam Sedzijowski
Brian N. Bourke
Michael T. Lear
Brock E. Nubile
Tadeusz E. Kopacz
Michele V. Simmons
Todd M. Bristol
Jacob W. Burgess
Sarah J. Burke
Tracy J. Cervone
Peter J. Czapienski
Daniel W. Deschenes
Matthew G. Goulet
Sara J. Lahoud
Lise M. LaTeller
Rebecca S. McNamee
James R. Monroe
Katie M. Niemiec
Kelly M. O'Connell
Maine A. Papoutsakis
Mathieu N. Patraitis
Jennifer L. Pierson
Jude Prych
Nykole I. Roche
Pankaj Sharma
Theresa I. Stacey
Debra A. Taddey
Jennifer L. Tait
Tara Vigorito
Corey A. Wright
Barbara Dokter
Jennifer M. Rogers
Dance M. Brown
Robert C. Cote
Pauline R. Goodale
Sergay Grechka
Michael R. Kisielewski
Lisa M. Lahoud
Renata Lepecki
Cethenne M. Masi
Joel D. Page
Danna M. Guardala
Rebecca A. Dubord
Victor Grechka
Todd G. McCauley
Alyson M. Duby
Andrea C. Hachey
Christina L. Lakota
Jeffrey D. Brown
Melissa A. Gracca
Tara A. Kunath
Kristin N. Lake-Piano
Kathryn T. Mitchell
George B. Pauta
David J. Radziewicz
Jamie L. Nelsen
Carey J. Parsons
Melissa A. Ransing
Maria L. Barnatt
Nadine D. Bell
Gary B. Bilven
Ali Darbashi
Crystal M. Nepus
Gail M. Burniske
Jo Nan M. Cunningham
Violetta A. Jurczyk
Heather L. Powell
Chad S. Cadwallader
Jennifer L. Macomber
Mary A. Mazza
Steven F. Teroso
Andrea D. Higgins
Alisa B. Katz
Lynn M. Boucher
Jeffrey F. Fossa
Jesse T. Morrison
Samantha F. Allen
Craig M. Maiolo
Megan J. Reynolds
Linda M. Coolidge
Lisa A. Mercelynas
Deana M. Sanders
Melanie A. Cenkus
Gregory E. Fung-A Fat
Katherine M. Labieniec
Samantha A. Lussier
Craig R. Gardner
Robert J. Jacque
Thao Phuong Vo
Suzanne L. Boone
Richard E. Coldbeck, Jr.
Timothy A. Clark
Wendy L. Cooper
Jessica A. Darry
Benjamin S. Ferris
Erin J. Harney
Amch Hirji
Heather A. McFarland
Jennifer L. Nardi
Ana A. Pedemeira
Lisa M. Roy
Meghan M. Brady
Elizabeth A. Cleaves
Melissa M. Marcella
Katrinka A. Baker
Rodney P. Harbaugh
Shannon M. Bonini
Graham T. Borg
Christine L. DeGraff
Alison J. Geldart
Patrick W. Gilroy
Richard W. Goetz
Katherine M. Kittell
Todd E. Parkoski
Sarah L. Salemon
William H. Cooney
Jodi L. Briggs
Ruth M. Kaplan
Brandon M. Reed
Michele A. Lloyd
Laura A. McGuire
Martha M. Perraioli
Karan J. Granaudo
Jennifer A. Hynds
John F. Mastar
Toni L. Baldwin
Christopher A. Flores
Bradley T. Forward
Susan M. Moredock
Amy B. Perrault
Devonna Y. Amiss
Kimberly A. Capasso
Laura M. Gomes
Jody L. Kasten
Graham H. Love
Arecelia A. Werd
Kelly E. Curtin
Kathryn M. Brunelle
Jessica J. Dion
Randolph A. Koetzner
Gina Sepe
Sean P. Walnberg
Mark W. Bittein
James R. Casagrande
Sandra O. Faustino
David G. Bachend
Rebecca J. Bissaillon
Joanne B. Brega
Sara M. Cavanaugh
Cheryl M. LaChence
Kara K. Philips
Jill K. Restle
Geoffrey W. Stowell
Valen B. Adamski
Lee Ann M. Arasikiewicz
Carl M. Mancini
Randy S. Pomerantz
Shen E. Scarra
Joseph J. Walsh
Emily A. Schauster
Timothy P. St. James
Zhen Z. He
Staci Krueger
Stacey A. Blindermen
Aimee J. Dorval
Christine L. Johnson
Sylvia Ellen Rivera
Lallyn T. Wilson
Johanna L. Dion
Matthew B. Robbie
Joshua T. Ellsworth
Anne-Marie M. Gravel
Carlee J. Holopp
Kristin E. Knight
Matthew P. Normand
Shelby A. Hall
Marcel A. Nunes
Christia A. Scribner
Curtis L. Weeks
Anne M. Oswald
Kevin A. Lincoln
Jason J. Merola
Sean C. Szczygiel
Dawn M. Carabetta
Tamonya M. Chisholm
Kevin T. Cometto
David K. Folger
Anne R. Gaudette
Jessica S. Hamelin
Maura P. Keating
Joanne B. Brega
Todd W. McDonald
Ryan D. Thomas
Robert J. White
Elizabeth A. Morrell
Heather C. Longchamps
Samantha E. Stoutenburg
Keith D. Marciniak
Marc J. Bianchi
Marco R. Caridi
Bridget C. Dalton
Jennifer A. Cascello
Meridith B. Bronson
Heather J. Hayes
Jennifer A. Hill
Cingy L. Lauber
Andrew P. Meier
Donna L. Pronovost
Traci-Ann Terenzini
Michele L. Wood
Irina Ivanov
Galine Grechka
Paul M. Kisiewicz
Shane W. McAvey
Aurora Melendez
Eric J. Patnode
Nicole F. Wellin
Juan O. Lopez
Devin F. Pratt
Patrick E. Pons
Ronald Allieri
Aaron M. Carter
David DeSimone
George Guthinger
Wayna Holt
Michael Lopes
Sean W. Murphy
Matthew J. Potvin
Michael S. Wood
Aaron V. Price

WNEC Calendar of Events

March 1996

SPRING INTRAMURALS 1996

Sport	Deadline for Rosters	Starting Date
Floor Hockey	Noon on Friday, Mar. 1, 1996	TBA
Wiffleball	Wednesday, Mar. 20, 1996	TBA

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 Closing In-progress Grades 200+ level	8 Residence Halls Close for Spring Vacation 7pm	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Spring Vacation
Spring Vacation						
17 Residence Halls Reopen 1pm	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Last Day to Drop a Course Without Academic Penalty	28	29	30 Open House 1p.m. - 4p.m.
31						

"What's 'News' at WNEC?"

By Chris Henyan
News Editor

Hello there faithful *"Westerner"* reader! To make the news section a little more interesting and humorous, I've decided to add a monthly "What's 'News' at WNEC" column filled with current campus issues and commentary. If you have anything you'd like me to add, just tell me. Quotes from teachers are also welcome (a reason to actually listen during class).

WNEC: "Arts & Sciences without the Arts?"

I do honestly believe that we have a fine college here, but one of the things that amazes me is the lack of a Dramatics program at an Arts & Sciences school. What the heck is going on with the old River's Gym? With a little bit of renovation, a nice little stage and auditorium could be built.

Considering the fact that all it's doing now is collecting dust, doesn't "Rivers Performance Center" sound like a good new title for the building? If WNEC truly wants to move up in college prestige and improve its reputation, existence of a Drama department is essential. We'll have to check up on that in the future.

"One vote for David Spade"

From the rumors swirling around campus, we have the choice between a concert or a comedy performance for the "big attraction" in spring semester. "Better than Ezra" was great last November, but to have the hottest comedian this side of Jim Carrey at Western New England is enough for me to say goodbye to ringing ears.

Think about it, a concert in the HLC is never going to have "real" concert atmosphere, with mosh-pits and crowd-surfing prohibited. Act like an idiot in the Hartford Civic Center or at "Woodstock 3," but save the big event for something that could be hilarious and memorable.

It may all come down to a vote, and unlike the political races, this is one we could "all win." Spade For Spring, pass it on.

"Internet addiction reaches its apex"

You can never truly appreciate the frightening aspects of a new addiction until you experience it first hand. One of my roommates got a computer for Christmas, and he hasn't been the same since. One night I went to sleep at around 2:00 a.m., and my friend was stuck deep in "the net." I awoke at about 6:30-7:00 in the morning, and guess what I heard?

Of course he denies any solutions to this new quick-spreading disease, contact me in the *Westerner* Office. Please hurry.

"The lemon cake nightmare"

I haven't eaten in the campus center "upstairs" cafeteria yet this year, but I was just wondering, have you ever been victim of "cake deception?" I used to get my regular food, then head to the desert section, and sometimes I would set my sights on a primo looking piece of vanilla cake. Much to my chagrin, when I attempted to consume desert, my tastebuds would be terrorized by the distinct flavor and feel of "lemon-fluffiness."

Because lemon cake is camouflaged to look like vanilla, this type of horror is an everyday threat. Be careful, be on the lookout.

"Twu-Lane Traffic"

This is really no major topic, but I was wondering if I was the only student who noticed that when the stairs are crowded, people walk like cars are driven–in the right lane. Try and go against the traffic and pay the price.

Quote of the month: Hayden Fox, from the T.V. show "Coach," talking to his girlfriend Christine: "Why do you care so much if everybody likes you? A lot of people don't like me and I don't give a damn. There's a lot of freedom in that."

Senior News is Exciting

By Kimberly Capasso

WNEC–If you're a senior, you are going to want to read this article because the Senior class has news for you.

The biggest event that the class is planning is the "96 Days Party" until graduation. The event will be held on February 15 at 9:00 p.m. in Dining Room A. So seniors, come party with your friends and enjoy your last 96 days at WNEC

How many of you seniors want to do Senior Week? Well, here is a chance for you to voice your opinion on where you want to go. At the "96 Days Party," a survey will be given out to seniors to pick from three different places for Senior Week. The options are Boston, Cape Cod, or Montreal, so come and place your vote.

Just to keep seniors updated on events that are coming up, we have Jail Bail in late April, so throw someone in jail for the fun of it. The Senior Formal which has been set for March 29 at Chez Josef at 7:00, but ticket prices are not yet set and we have not set a date to sell them. Girls, go out and get those dresses, and guys, be ready to get into a tuxedo because it is just around the corner.

The Senior banquet has been set. It will be on April 28 at 7:15. There will be hors d'oeuvres served, and at 7:45 p.m. dinner will be served in Dining Room A. Seniors, come be inducted into the Alumni Association and be a part of WNEC forever.

The last event for the class is, of course, graduation. So remember to put May 18 at 2:00 p.m. on your calendar because after a long four years, no one wants to forget his or her own graduation.

Seniors, remember there is just under 100 days until graduation, so make the best of what is left of our final year at WNEC

Reflections from '95-'96 Freshmen

By Anne-Marie Gravel

WNEC–Welcome to WNEC, may I take your order please? Oh, if only life were so simple your first semester of college.

How did your first year of college treat you? Are there things you wish you could have done differently, places you wish you would have gone, classes you wish you would have taken, sports or clubs you wish you would have participated in?

As I chatted with many of the freshmen of this year's class, I asked them, "What do you now know after one semester at WNEC?" The responses were varied.

The most humorous response was given by Maureen, who like many of the freshmen I chatted with, felt that "college is a lot harder than [she] thought it would be," but "the best friends you are ever going to make, are the ones you meet in college." Oddly enough,m she also came to the realization that "the men suck here." Whether or not Maureen is accurate on this account goes without saying.

Freshman Janna Graham said of school work at WNEC, "It takes a lot more time than what I thought, and the work is very draining. By the end of the day you are left in a state of exhaustion after exerting so much energy into your studies."

A lot of the responses given dealt with how drastic a change there was in their workload compared to high school. Some were already frustrated with this place enough to say that after one semester at WNEC they were "ready to leave this place before the fall."

"I know I won't be here next year," Kristen Dziok remarked after being interviewed.

There were a wide range of answers to the question, "what do you now know after one semester at WNEC?" (And of course there are no wrong answers.) But as I continued to probe the student body I found Erin Foley intently studying in her room. She responded that her first semester at WNEC dispelled the myth that it would be tough out there on your own. She said, "There is always someone to go to for help. I thought I would get lost easily, but there is always help out there for you." Erin's roommate, Nicole Pizutti, agreed with Erin's statement, but also went on to add that she thought college "would be a lot funner."

The guys that I talked to have a few different viewpoints to add, however. Pete Fowler, a member of the WNEC varsity bowling team remarked that "in college you can't depend on anyone other than yourself. It's up to you to get things done. When you work you have to work hard, but no matter how hard you work you should have fun.

Matt Smith added, "College is different from high school because there is more expected of me. I like dorm life, and my RA is cool, but the people in Residence Life sometimes make decisions without knowing what's going on or how the students feel."

So as you can see, there were many perspectives voiced by this year's first semester freshmen.

As you walk around campus greeting your old friends and new, try to think back to your first semester at WNEC. Did you think the men stunk, that it was easy to find help, that friends are forever, or that you were ready to leave after your first semester?

To me, college is what you make of it. Join a club, a sport, student government, or intramurals. Let's face it, you are already paying to be here, so why not "get your money's worth and a whole lot more?!"

The Internet Ate my Homework Time

By Tyler Fleming

WNEC–In the story of Prometheus, fire was given to us as a gift from the gods, with some uncertainty as to whether it was a blessing or a curse. Prometheus was banished from Mount Olympus because it was thought that he released evil upon the people, rather than giving them a gift.

Is the internet purely a "gift" to students here at WNEC, or is there a negative side? It is at this point impossible for the internet to be restricted, in any effective way, so anyone who can get access to it can have at his/her fingertips a world of information. Some of this is academically valuable, while another portion of it is everything you could imagine.

Many would say that the adverse effect the internet has on study habits outweighs the benefits to be gained from the use of online resources. Mark Gismondi, a senior management student here at WNEC, did not agree with that analysis. He said instead, "The adverse effects don't outweigh the good things, because it opens so much educational information to you."

When asked how he felt the internet affected student's grades, Mark responded, "I believe it enhances it if done properly. There is a lot of useful info, but there is also a lot of garbage."

Mark spends about eight hours per week on the internet, which is slightly less than average, based upon talks with several other upperclassmen. He spends about two of those hours for purely academic purposes. The rest of the time is spent with Electronic Mail and the World Wide Web. When asked if he felt the college should offer more or less internet availability to students he said, "I think the school offers a good amount of access now. Anything for free is good enough."

Overall, students' grades seem to be affected slightly for the better with WNEC's current internet access policy.

Big Chill '96 Provides "big thrills"

WNEC–Winterweek is a program sponsored by the Campus Activities Board that started February eleventh and lasted until the seventeenth.

Because of the frigid weather, people tend to become rather lazy this time of year. However, Winterweek was a great reason to come out of hibernation. There were a wide variety of activities everyone could enjoy!

The psychic fair, which was held on Monday, February 12, was a big hit. The lines were long with people anxiously waiting to hear their fortunes.

If relaxation is more your style, the Summer Drive-in Movie was just for you.

The Health Fair, which held at the HLC from noon till six o'clock had a wide range of activities. Hair cuts, body fat count, and virtual reality are a few of the activities that were being held at the Health Fair.

Thursday was the Winter Carnival. Food, pictures, and SUMO wrestling were going on from eleven till three o'clock in the Campus Center.

Senior Greg Madrid, from the Campus Activities Board stated, "The purpose of Winterweek was to plan a week that everyone can enjoy."

Winterweek was a great way to beat the winter blues. Thanks to the Campus Activities Board for making it possible.

Fridays' "Jimmy Buffet Night" a Caribbean Success

By Ric Goetz

WNEC–On Friday, February 9, the Campus Activities Board (CAB) sponsored what was one of the year's most exciting edition of Fridays. The student organization's "Pirates, Parrots, and Margaritas, a night of Jimmy Buffet," was a great time for all who attended. The evening started at 9:00 p.m. and ended around 11:00 p.m. The entertainment was a Jimmy Buffet tribute, with a Caribbean beach theme.

The cafe was decked out in palm trees and beach balls that made you feel as if you were right there on the beach with Jimmy Buffet. A representative from the club said last year was a real success and predicted this year would be even better–It certainly was.

This year's event even included alcoholic drinks for those 21 years of age in the People's Place dining room. There were also special non-alcoholic margaritas available from the Fridays staff that were a big hit with the under 21 crowd.

This event was part of "The Big Chill '96" program, that brought us a feature movie, a psychic fair, a health fair, and a concert in the dining hall, among other things.

February 9th was a blast I hope you did not miss; everyone there commented on how much fun the evening provided. The sounds of Jimmy Buffet prompted the limbo dance, "beach volleyball," and a party train. Many of the patrons went on stage to provide background percussion and vocals.

Between the fabulous drinks, excellent food, and the great music and dancing, it was hard to say good-bye to Fridays. A great deal of credit is due CAB on a very successful program. CAB has provided some of the best programs of the year, proving time and time again why they are one of WNEC's most successful clubs. Keep your eyes open for upcoming CAB sponsored events and make it a point to attend–you won't be sorry!

Alumni Career and Human Resources

By Rebecca McNamee

This is the third in a series of alumni interviews that will provide students with insight in career planning. The Alumni Career Network is comprised of a group of alumni who are more than willing to offer career advice to students. These alumni have agreed to speak with students individually about their career interests and provide specific information on fields, occupations, and specific companies and organizations.

Currently, two major networking receptions are being organized that will be held in the spring in the greater Boston and Hartford areas. The dates of these events are as follows: March 6 (Boston), and April 10 (Hartford). These receptions enable students to meet with alumni one-on-one and discuss prospective career choices.

The following is an interview with Kim MacLeod, alumna and trustee of Western New England College, who graduated in 1973 with a BA in Sociology. Kim is currently group publisher of Family Fun magazine and other magazines owned by the Disney organization. She is appreciative of the Institution for giving her the chance to be a "generalist." She offers this advice to students, "College is the first chance you'll have to experiment and try anything, so don't feel pressured to be a specialist. Life is general; work at getting a broad education."

What experiences from WNEC have been meaningful to your career?

I majored in Sociology with a minor in Psychology and secondary education. The English courses I took widened my exposure to literature and writing, and my student teaching taught me more about public speaking than any course ever could! I also loved to write, especially poetry, and was given the opportunity my freshman year to create a literary magazine–Intrinsia. It still exists and is now called the Review of Art and Literature.

Give us a brief overview of your career.

I'm the Vice-President Group Publisher of Disney Family Magazines, which include Family Fun, FamilyPC, and the Disney Magazine. Before I began working for the Disney organization I spent twelve years at Rodale Press and two years as publisher of Working Mother.

Is it ever frightening being a publisher of a magazine and having so many people working for you?

Ten years ago it would have been scary and I could never have done it. However, I've gained so much experience over the years that I now know the right decisions to make. I've learned a great deal from my own mistakes and watching other people make mistakes. The idea that managers do not have to work as hard as their employees is false, though. The most successful people have to work a lot of hours, but if you love what you're doing, you don't mind putting in the time.

Do you feel that women still have to work harder than men in order to be successful in the business world?

Definitely. Twenty years ago women had to work twice as hard as men. Since then we've broken through a lot of barriers but we are still not equal. Pay differences and "glass ceilings" continue to exist, as many women still have to work a lot harder than men.

It's nearly impossible to do it all–have kids as well as a successful career. Many companies recognize this and have begun more flexible work arrangements, such as job sharing, flex time, or work-at-home options.

What advice do you have for students on how to start looking for a job?

My advice is to pursue the things you love to do. By doing this, you're more likely to be good at whatever you're doing. Don't worry about the success and the money–it will come. I started as a receptionist at a package design company and was eventually given the opportunity to do copy writing. I rolled up my sleeves and learned everything I could. This allowed me to get my foot in the door and gain a lot of experience. Now, I notice the employees who have good attitudes and give 110%. I notice the people who will tackle any task given to them and remain persistent and focused. In fact, like most employers, I promote people with these qualities.

Any last words . . .

Don't limit yourself–get a broad education. You shouldn't feel pressured to be a specialist because life is not specific. Life is general and you should take as many electives as you can in order to get a broad education. College is the first chance you'll have to experiment and try anything. When I hire people I look for well-rounded people, those who know how to have fun and hold down a job. These are usually the people who accept change more easily and are aware that risk and change don't have to be traumatic.

For more information about the Alumni Career Network, please register with Career and Human Resources which is located on the second floor of the Campus Center. By doing this, you'll have access to additional information about the program and receive mail about upcoming events.

Kim MacLeod, Alumna and Trustee speaks to students about careers.

From Page 1

WNEC Offers Networking Trips

was originally scheduled to be in Hartford Connecticut but it was switched to the downtown campus seeing that it would be quite easy for alumni to travel from Connecticut according to Internship and Employer relations administrator, Cari Smith Carpenter.

This event will be very special because it will give the newest alumni, the class of 1996, a chance to network as alumni. So it will be an alumni to alumni event. It should be a good experience for anyone attending.

The Career and Human Resources office has been working very diligently at organizing these networking trips in order to help students prepare for the competitive job market. The opportunities are huge in networking. Students must take the first step and take advantage of the valuable tool of networking.

Westfield State Concert Features New England Premiere For New Saxophone Music

Composer Paul Dorsam will be at Westfield State College for the New England premiere of his work for saxophones on February 29 at 8:00 p.m. in the Dever Auditorium on the college campus.

This premiere–the second time it has been performed in the world–is part of a concert that will feature five other musical selections performed by four saxophonists. The concert is free and open to the public.

Dorsam's work, "Sax Section" essentially in three parts, features a sprightly opening wherein the players often trade phrases in tenor and baritone, and soprano and alto.

Also on the evening's program are two Renaissance Pieces composed by Thomas Lupo and Tarquino Merula. Originally scored for recorders, these selections demonstrate the saxophone's versatility. There will be other works performed from Scott Joplin, Gabriele Pierne and Dave Liebman, the latter featuring free form improvisations on the soprano and alto sax.

The concert will conclude with Irving Berlin's piece, *Alexander's Ragtime Band*. This piece presents all the attributes of saxophone writing for big band. "The only thing that will be missing is the rest of the band," said Quartet leader Ted Levine.

Gina Vergnani, who will play tenor saxophone, is a graduate of Westfield State College where she received the 1995 Westfield State Music Department Academic Achievement Award in Classical Performance. Currently she is a teacher/administrator of the music lesson program at Performance Music in Westfield.

Lisa Andras, who will play baritone saxophone, is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts. In 1987 she was the recipient of the Chancellor's Talent Award. She teaches instrumental and general music in South Hadley.

Victor Hugo, who will play alto saxophone, is a graduate of Old Dominion University in his home state of Virginia. A member of the professional music fraternity Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, he received their Outstanding Service Award in 1992 and the Academic Achievement Award in 1993. He is the choir director and pianist at the Newman Center at UMASS.

Theodore Levine, who plays the soprano saxophone, is a professor of jazz and saxophone studies at Westfield State College, Holyoke Community College, and Amherst College. In 1994 he released a CD with his own jazz quartet gaining him national recognition in the "The Saxophone Journal."

Going Back To High School

By Jennifer Markarian

WNEC–Students will have the opportunity to return to their former high schools in May to talk about life at WNEC. Students who take part in the Boomerang program will meet with guidance counselors and high school juniors.

The Boomerang program will inform potential students about college life at WNEC, both academically and socially.

Participating WNEC students will act as a liaison between the admissions office and their high school, talk about the adjustment from high school to college, experiences here, and answer questions students may have about the college.

Michelle Lalancette, an admissions counselor who is in charge of the program feels WNEC students can relate better with the high school juniors and speak directly about the transition from that particular high school to WNEC.

This program also provides guidance counselors with more information about WNEC and may influence students to come and visit the campus.

Interested WNEC students must attend a one-hour training session to take part in this program.

Michelle feels this is a great opportunity for those who are actively involved at WNEC and have positive experiences to share.

This program has been a success in the past with about 25 students volunteering last year.

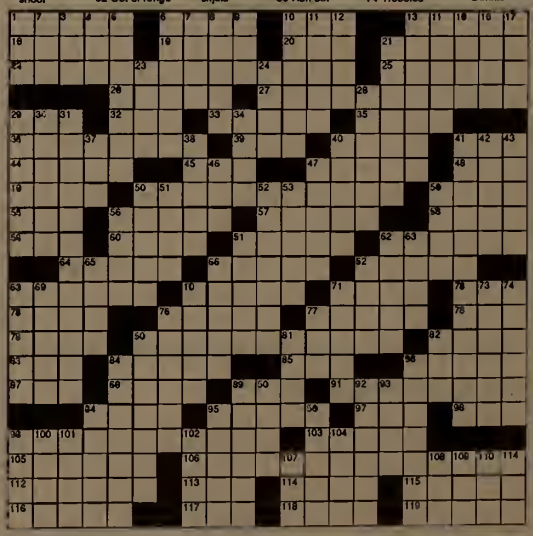
If you are interested and would like to become a volunteer, contact Michelle at 782-1321.***

"Non-alcoholic beer! What's the point?"

Super Crossword

ACROSS
1 Sam or Rone
8 "Sesame Street" subject
10 A/C measure
13 "Le —" ('87 film)
18 Broadcast
19 Japan's first capital
20 Hosp. erase
21 Ms. Sorkin of TV
22 Mel Brooks film
25 Rembrandt's birthplace
26 People
27 Ritter/Post sitcom
29 Winter mo.
32 Ideologue's suffix
33 "Spartacus" prop
36 Be important
38 Father Merrin's occupation
39 — Jima
40 Soap setting?
41 RN's specialty
44 Ill will
45 Symbol of wisdom
47 Prime — (self-evident)
48 Stadium shout
49 Word-game piece
50 Dessert choice
54 Portend
58 Onassis' nickname
56 Shipbuilding need
57 "Oliver Twist" villain
58 Fossey's friends
59 Author Deighton
60 Related
61 Warm and sticky
62 First-aid device
64 Looked longingly
66 Less limited
67 Imperturbable
68 More abundant
70 Sells
71 Burn remedy
72 — Dhabi
75 Explosive sound
76 English novelist Charles
77 Eye-opener?
78 Actor Cheney
79 Notes from Verdi?
80 Elvis Presley hit
82 Out of range
83 Outlaw
84 Sheer joy
85 Subordinate Claus?
86 Beethoven's "Für —"
87 Cover girl Carol
88 Geraldine Chaplin's mom
89 Kennel feature
91 Teapot disturbances?
94 Gin flavoring
95 Keep an — the ground
97 Miss Piggy's pronoun
98 DDE's predecessor
99 Georgia health resort
103 Morocco's capital
105 Form e concept
106 Flustered
112 Coot
113 Chicken — king
114 Elvis's parents
115 Minneapolis suburb
116 Ceremonial supper
117 Mr. Hammarskjold
118 Dmery Olympian
119 Jessica of "Used People"

DOWN
1 Bowe blow
2 Be under the weather
3 Monk's title
4 Turkish topper
5 Impressive building
6 Geometry topice
7 Enjoy the sunshine
8 Vulgar
9 Crushed
10 Fendango kin
11 Riser's relative
12 Former net.
13 Respite
14 "Cat —" (Chris Elliott sitcom)
15 Word form for "center" for "center"
16 Pilsner
17 Designer Klein
21 Ancient French province
23 Little Red Hen response
24 Arab craft
26 Uses e harrier
29 Gala
30 Run out
31 The edge of enger
34 Unrestreined
37 Map abbr.
38 Symbol
40 Stationed
41 Aquarium denizens
42 Brimming
43 It'e often heaved
46 Speakeasy patron
47 Muslim mendicant
50 Peter Fonde role
51 Enthusiastic
52 All of — (unexpectedly)
53 Ber fruit
54 "— He\"
56 Bring down the house
61 Sanskrit derivative
62 Mall component
63 Marvell marvel
65 — mater
68 Estranges
67 Pole, for one
68 Addis —
69 Decant
70 Vice follower
71 Overhead
73 Blows one'e own horn
74 Troubled state
76 Bull in e china shop, for instance
77 Half and half?
80 Outtake
81 Fellow
82 Maugham's "Cakes and —"
84 Build up
86 Descriptive name
89 Motley
90 Bear in the air?
92 Give relief?
93 Ditch under e drawbridge
94 City miesma
95 "— Gay" (bomber)
96 Ask for meat loaf
99 Dome covers
100 "Zip- — - Doo-Dah"
101 Country music'e Jerry
102 "If — e Hammer"
104 Skilled
107 Teachere' org.
108 Author LeShen
109 — Tin Tin
110 Wind up
111 Dorie or Dennis



PSA Embarks on Active Semester

By Mike Kisielewski

The Political Science Association has come alive this semester. From helping to register new voters to sponsoring well-known state and local politicians, the Association, formerly the Political Science Club, has pursued some of its most important goals.

Members of the PSA have helped incredibly with organizing many activities. On February 16, David Guilmette helped to arrange a visit by State Representative Paul Caron, who was well-received by the number of students to whom he spoke.

Also, many members helped supervise voter registration, which was held in the Campus Center from February 12 to the 14. The PSA managed to get over fifty students from Connecticut and Massachusetts to register for the upcoming elections. In subsequent months, it will assist students from other nearby states to register as well.

But the PSA's work is not finished yet. In March, it will host the High School Model United Nations in the HLC. And of course, it will send delegates to the National Model United Nations in N.Y. City.

The PSA also plans to sponsor a showing of the movie "The American President", open to all students, as well as to sponsor various other well-known speakers.

The PSA welcomes students from a variety of majors. Its success has led to a newsletter, the "Bully Pulpit".

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Community Mentors Help Non-traditional Students Define Direction

A two-year-old program at **Rockford College (IL)** helps non-traditional students make more informed career and academic decisions by linking them with volunteer mentors–many of them alums–in the Rockford community.

The "Career Networking Program for Non-Traditional Students," co-sponsored by the school's Board of Counselors and its career services office, is aimed at students 23 or older who want to learn more about a particular career by meeting periodically with a working professional in their field of interest.

Participating students might simply talk with their mentor or may take the relationship further by accompanying their mentor to meetings or talking with their mentor's colleagues. As is the case with many programs, the student gets out what he or she puts in, says Steve Marcon, coordinator of community service and supervisor of the program.

Exploring options

The program focuses on non-traditional students because, "they often find themselves in unique circumstances," says Marcon. "They have more stressors on their minds and they often wonder whether their choice to go to school was right."

One of the program's goals is to help non-traditional students build relationships with community professionals to learn not only about what those professionals do, but about other employment options.

Marcon remembers one student who was a criminal justice major and was interested in being a probation officer. She was matched off with a county board member who introduced her to other areas within the criminal justice system. Eventually, she met with a corrections supervisor who told her about prison work.

"And so now," Marcon says, "she's focused her career, so she can become a supervisor in the field."

The mentoring relationships last the entire school year, and sometimes beyond. The key–and one of the most difficult parts of the program, Marcon says–is getting them launched in the first place.

"When the program began," Marcon says, "we used to have the mentee contact the mentor, but . . . you find that the student can sometimes be leery of contacting the professional, so we switched it around." But sometimes, Marcon says, even the mentor sets things aside and never gets back to the student.

"One of the primary problems, which comes after the initial orientation that we have, involves doing follow-up to make sure that the student and the mentor have actually gone further and initiated contact with each other on their own," Marcon says.

"It's important to help the two make that first contact. Sometimes that's slow going, but once you do that, everything seems to go well."

This year, only 14 are participating in the program, compared with last year's 27. But they come from a variety of majors, including biology, child development, elementary education, human relations, and psychology. Marcon says the drop in numbers if "naturally disappointing," but that the program is still in its infancy and will improve with some "fine tuning."

"It's good for the college and . . . the students and . . the community," he says.

Contact: Steve Marcon, Coordinator of Community Service, Rockford College, 5050 E. State St., Rockford, IL 61108-2393; Ph: 815/226-4161.

Academic Disengagement, Finances Top List Of Survey

First-year students are feeling increasingly disengaged from the academic experience, and their financial concerns continue to grow, according to results of the 30th annual survey of entering freshmen, conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at U.C.L.A.

The survey questioned more than 323,000 first-year students last fall at 641 two- and four-year colleges and universities in the U.S. About 240,000 questionnaires from 473 campuses were used to compute the 1995 national norms, which were statistically adjusted to represent the nation's 1.5 million first-year students.

Among other things, the study found that during their senior year in high school, students reportedly spent less time studying, talking with teachers outside of class, and participating in student organizations. And the highest percentage of students ever (33.9%) reported being frequently bored in class.

"These disturbing trends suggest that we need to redouble efforts to reform and strengthen our secondary schools," says survey director Alexander Astin, a professor in UCLA's Graduate School of Education & Information Studies.

The study also found that students are increasingly dependent on multiple sources of financial support. Reliance on loans continues to rise, and a record 71.4% of the students said they're concerned about having enough money to finish college.

"Given students' increasing financial responsibilities, it is not surprising that more students than ever have a major concern about their ability to pay for college,": says Linda Sax, associate director of the survey.

Among the study's other findings:

• About 70% of the students said that administrators should give race at least "some special consideration" when making admissions decisions. But when asked specifically about affirmative action, 50% agreed and 50% disagreed that "affirmative action in college admissions should be abolished."

"This discrepancy highlights the fact that people are willing to support the consideration of race in admissions, but are less willing to commit themselves to the more politically loaded phrase, 'affirmative action,'" says Sax.

• Students' commitment to "keeping up to date with political affairs" as an important life goal dropped for the third straight year, to a record low of 28.5%.

• For the second year in a row, most students (54.3%) said they are "middle of the road" when it comes to their political views.

Copies of "The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1995" are available from the Higher Education Research Institute, UCLA Graduate School of Education & Information Studies, 3005 Moore Hall, 405 Hilgard Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521. Cost: $22 prepaid)plus $4.79 s&h for the first copy and 40 cents for each additional copy).

Walkie-talkies Improve Classroom Communication

If you're in Professor Russell Sobel's economics class at **West Virginia U.**, there's no need to shout from the back of the hall–or, worse, let your questions go unasked.

Instead, you can use one of the five walkie-talkies Sobel hands out at the beginning of each class.

Sobel encourages students holding the walkie-talkies to push the "beep" button whenever they need to take a 30-second pause to catch up or discuss a point. They can also use them to ask questions of Sobel.

Sobel realized he needed to do something different when he let his TA take over his large lecture class one day. Out of curiosity, he sat in the back of the room to observe–and what he found surprised him.

"When I was teaching," Sobel says, "I always knew there was talking going on, but I never knew what it was about. It turned out that a lot of what they were talking about were examples of economics.

So Sobel asked for $134 in funding from the College of Business and Economics and purchased the walkie-talkies, which he now uses in two sections of his course.

At first, he says, there was concern that too many pauses might be disruptive. But so far, he says, the class is only getting stopped about twice a day–and participation has increased.

Sobel says that someday classes will have walkie-talkies–or something similar–as a technological helping hand for students.

National College Capsules

Worth the "pain"?

Pomona College (CA) is considering tearing down its "free speech wall," a gray cinder block flood barrier where students have been expressing themselves for 20 years.

Over the last several years, calls for violence against minorities and expressions of racial hatred have appeared on the wall alongside less controversial messages like "Relax" and "Remember World AIDS Day." A recent "Kill O.J." message, which appeared with a drawing of a noose, prompted campus officials to reassess the wall, according to Toni Clark, associate dean of students.

College President Peter Stanley has appointed a committee of faculty members, students, and administrators to study the issue and recommend a solution. The committee's report is expected by the end of this month.

"What we are trying to figure out is if the benefit is worth the pain of the disruption," says David Menefee-Libey, an associate professor of politics who serves on the committee.

"Easy" prey

A black market for memory boards, disk drives, and other computer parts may be the cause of a rash of recent thefts that have cost four Pennsylvania campuses nearly a quarter-million dollars.

At **Carnegie Mellon U.**, for example, police and administrators estimate that parts worth more than $200,000 have disappeared since September. The parts belonged to desktop computers, work stations, and printers.

At the **Community College of Allegheny**, meanwhile, $28,000 worth of memory boards, processor chips, and hard drives have disappeared since October.

New computer designs make it very easy for thieves to take what they want, officials say.

Experts say that parts shortages, which have sent prices soaring, have left some vendors willing to buy computer parts with few–or no–questions asked.

"There hasn't been a lot of

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publication about this, so a lot of people might not be aware of the fact that the crime is on the rise," says Bob Violino, an editor with *Information Week*, a computer trade magazine.

Email explosion

The U. of Wisconsin-Madison is reporting record use of electronic mail by students–and the school expects use to increase even further as students come to the school more technologically savvy.

In a survey taken earlier this school year, 81% of students reported using email–up from 52% in 1994.

Faculty and administrators say that students are now more likely to contact them by email than any other method. And Chancellor David Ward says he's having more contact than ever with students, thanks to email.

"I don't have as much time to meet with students as I'd like, and the meetings tend to be with students involved in government groups or other organized activities," he says. "Email gives students who are not part of these organized efforts access to me."

Satisfaction guaranteed

Rockland Community College (NY) is now offering a "Contract for Learning Assurance" that promises unlimited remedial instruction for students who earn a degree but fail as employees to perform the skills they're taught.

"We are a service organization," says RCC President Neal Rausman. "When a student contracts with us with a payment of tuition, we contract a certain level of services. We will follow through with that level of service; otherwise we will be held accountable."

Rausman says the guarantee stems in part from grade inflation, and that it ensures that grades have standards behind them.

"Any college that is not willing to stand behind its activities in the classroom by assuring a quality education to its students deserves scrutiny," he contends.

Tuition lesson

Utah State U.'s attempt to use a "plateau tuition" schedule has backfired–to the tune of about $880,000.

Under the plan, students could take anywhere from 12 to 18 credits at a flat rate. While they had to pay more than last year for credit hours 1-12, hours 13-18 were free.

The goal was to encourage students to take more classes so that they could graduate sooner and make room for more students.

But while more full-time students took advantage of the flat rate, more part-time students stayed home, possibly because they couldn't afford the higher tuition. That cost the school $887,000 in projected tuition revenue, according to Fred Huntsker, vice president for student services. "If you analyze this from a philosophical standpoint, it [plateau tuition] worked very well," he says. "The revenue side of it–the students who didn't show up–was the part that wasn't successful."

Now, USU wants to tweak the system so that students will have to take at least 13 credit hours before benefitting from the flat tuition rate.

It's a living

The *Boston Globe* recently ran an article describing some of the unique ways students earn extra money by participating in studies. Among the more interesting anecdotes:

One student earned $45 for donating her tooth plaque. The only down side, she said, was that she was prohibited from brushing her teeth on the day of the donation.

Another student got $50 for napping–while researchers monitored his brain waves.

A husband and wife spent a weekend eating high-fiber foods and donating stool samples, earning $300 apiece in the process. "It was comical," said one of the participants, "but we're a strange couple."

At least one student reported that he'd participate in experiments "for a living."

One-year ban

Towson State U. (MD) has banned a fraternity from using the student union for a year, following allegations that the group used union space for an all-male party featuring exotic dancers.

Charles Maloy, acting vice president of student life, says "there was sufficient reason to take that action" against the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. "It was an abuse of union space," he says.

But officials say that no other formal action will be taken because none of those involved will talk about the event, which allegedly involved five or six women–all of them non-students–and 30 to 35 men.

On its way out?

The **U. of Washington** is withdrawing its official recognition of the Delta Chi fraternity and recommending that its house be closed, over several allegations of hazing.

Among the allegations:

• that some pledges were paddled so severely that it forced one pledge to vomit, and

• that some pledges had to remain in a room and drink a keg of beer, then jump into the fraternity's swimming pool and swim to the bottom.

The university has no legal authority over Greek organizations, but in 1993 it established voluntary "recognition agreements" with the groups. If Delta Chi loses its official recognition, it won't be included on UW's list of recognized organizations. But it won't necessarily lose its charger unless its national headquarters revokes it.

"White Racism"

Starting next year, the **U. Of Connecticut** can begin offering a controversial course entitled "White Racism."

A 24-member university committee on curricula recently approved the course, which will be offered through the sociology department.

Taught by professor Noel Cazenave, the course will examine white racism as a "central and enduring principle around which American and other modern societies are structured."

Removing conflict

Officials at **Michigan State U.** have come up with a plan to regulate romantic relationships between faculty members and students or anyone else over whom they have a degree of power.

Under the proposal, faculty would be required to inform their bosses of romantic relationships with anyone they supervise, whether it's a student in the classroom or another university employee. In turn, bosses will have to make sure that one romantic partner doesn't report to the other.

"In any organization, there are issues like this," says Jacqueline Wright, chair of MSU's University Committee on Faculty Affairs. "Humans will be humans. But we can do something about removing the conflict."

Wright says that faculty members won't have to go into detail about the nature of the relationship, but simply disclose that one exists. "It's not complicated," she says.

A little goes a long way

The Women's Club at the **U. of Missouri-Kansas City** helps employees help students–one dollar at a time.

Each winter, the Club asks employees to donate the money they'd normally spend on holiday cards for their colleagues on campus. The Club then sends to every university employee a special holiday greeting card featuring the names of the donors.

The money left over is used to finance short-term loans for students. Since 1972, more than 4,000 students have been helped.

Added incentive

The **U. of California-Davis** has started a forgivable loan program to encourage aspiring teachers to work in low-income, ethnically diverse communities in nearby Sacramento.

Under the program, UCD teaching graduates who receive the $5,000 loan will have a portion of the loan forgiven for each year they teach in the Sacramento City Unified School District.

"Hats for the Homeless"

Community health students and faculty at the U. of Baltimore have organized a project to give homeless people a better chance at fighting the winter cold.

The goals of "Hats for the Homeless" are to collect warm hats for homeless people and to give them tips on keeping warm.

So far, project leaders have collected about 500 hats from schools and businesses. The hats are distributed on Tuesdays and Thursdays at a local shelter and will continue to be handed out all winter.

"No editorial control"

Clemson U. (SC) can't be sued for an article that appeared in the student newspaper because the state school has no editorial control over the paper, a judge has ruled.

Judge Charles Simmons threw out a libel suit filed by Dan Lentz, a former graduate student. Lentz had sued over a crime story published in *The Tiger* last year, saying that the article was false and characterized him as a "sexual deviant."

The article, which focused on a residence hall custodian's complaint that Lentz exposed himself to her, was attributed to an incident report filed by CU police.

Simmons' ruling declared that the U.S. and state constitutions prohibit a state agency, like Clemson, from exercising prior approval of a newspaper's content.

Threat to freedom?

A group of taxpayers is suing **Nassau Community College (NY)** over one of its courses, saying it violates the establishment clause of the U.S. Constitution because its content is not neutral on religion.

Nassau President Sean Fanelli says that the course in question, "Family Living and Sexuality," includes controversial topics like abortion and homosexuality, and that the lawsuit threatens academic freedom in all state institutions.

But Joseph Infranco, lead attorney for the plaintiffs, says that "academic freedom can't be a shield for unconstitutional behavior." The plaintiffs allege, among other things, that certain teachers have ridiculed the Catholic church during the course, and that some students have had to participate unwillingly in exercises because they feared for their grade.

The art of protest

About 100 **Maryland Institute College of Art** students staged a rally recently to protest what they called censorship of several works of art.

Administrators temporarily removed or covered the art during a weekend when hundreds of school children, high school students, and their families visited the Institute.

"We're not saying that anything is OK at any time, but we don't think the work removed was dangerous in any way," says Lisa Manzi, a senior. Manzi says students were also angry because they weren't consulted first.

The students demanded an apology from President Fred Lazarus and put tape over the mouth of his portrait inside the school.

Deadly combination?

Norfolk State U. (VA) ignored "violent, unsafe and dangerous" conditions in a residence hall last year, and is therefore liable for the murder of a student who lived there, according to a lawsuit filed recently by the victim's mother.

The $10 million suit says that the school failed to change the lock combination of the door to the victim's room, allowing the killer–the victim's former roommate–and several accomplices to get inside.

"NSU was aware, or reasonably should have been aware, of these conditions," the suit contends.

The victim, Gerard Edwards, was shot to death while sleeping. Edwards' roommate at the time, Ronald Richardson, was also shot but survived; he has filed a similar suit against the school.

Officials say the shooting stemmed from a rivalry between two student groups from New York and Washington. Four students were convicted in the killing.

Who benefits most?

White students, not African Americans, benefit most from affirmative action programs at public colleges and universities in Washington state, according to a recent study by the Washington Commission on African American Affairs.

Statewise, the study reports, four white freshmen were admitted for every black freshman admitted under less stringent alternative admissions standards.

"To the degree that alternative admissions standards can be viewed as a "lowering of the bar,' that bar is being jumped far more often by whites than by blacks in Washington's four-year schools," the report concludes.

The study also says that when white students were not admitted, it was more often because of tight enrollment limits than because African American students had taken their spots.

Students with disabilities

College Students With Learning Disabilities: A Handbook offers tips and strategies for students with disabilities and campus professionals who work with them.

The fifth edition features a chapter on Attention Deficit Disorder in college students.

Contact: Learning Disability Association Bookstore, 4156 Library Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15234. Cost: $6.75 (check payable to LDA must accompany order).

Supporting single parents

The April/May 1995 issue of *Community College Journal* features an article entitled: "Single Parents: In Need of a Support Network."

The article argues that "accommodating the ... short-term educational needs of single parent students might give a tremendous return in the long run."

Contact: Your campus library or American Association of Community Colleges, 1 Dupont Circle NW, Suite 410, Washington, DC 20036; Ph: 202/728-0200; Fax: 202/833-2467.

Differing needs

An article in the January-April 1995 issue of *The Negro Educational Review* looks at the differences between African-Americans and whites among female first-year students.

The article is entitled, "A Sample of Female African-American First-Year College Students' Needs in a Predominantly White University."

Contact: Your campus library or *The Negro Educational Review*, P.O. Box 2895, General Mail Center, Jacksonville, FL 32203. Single-copy cost: $5.

Grade buster?

Having a part-time job may improve a student's grades, provided the number of hours worked is low, according to a recent study by the Institute for Social Research at **York U. (Ontario)**.

The study found that students who worked one to eight hours a week had slightly higher grade point averages and earned as many credits as students who didn't have jobs.

However, students who worked more than eight hours a week earned fewer credits and had slightly lower grades than students who worked fewer hours.

The study was based on surveys of 1,848 first-year students at York. 65% of whom held part-time jobs.

No arms

The president of **Brown U. (RI)** has refused to allow campus police to carry weapons while on duty.

President Vartan Gregorian said that his decision is "a reflection of the widespread unwillingness on campus to see the university commit itself to a significant policy change in a climate of uncertainty as to its effects on the broader community."

A student organization, the Coalition Against Guns at Brown, had given Gregorian a petition signed by almost 1,000 students opposed to the idea of arming campus police.

The officers had argued that guns are more prevalent than in the past, and that not having guns hampers their ability to protect the campus and remain unharmed themselves.

Decisive votes?

Two **U. of the District of Columbia** students who lost out in student government elections last spring have gone to court to get the school to count the votes of students incarcerated at the nearby Lorton Correctional Complex. Jameelah Fernandez, who ran for student body president, and Neffa Freeman, who ran for vice president, say UDC President Tilden LeMelle breached a contract with students to ensure a proper vote count.

At issue are the votes of about 180 students who are prisoners at Lorton. During the vote counting, administrators and student election officials invalidated the votes of Lorton students because of what they said were irregularities in the collection and transfer of the ballots.

Because fewer than 700 of the school's 8,000 students voted, the Lorton votes could make a difference in the overall results, Fernandez and Freeman argue.

The two also say that LeMelle wants to keep them from winning because they've pledged to gain more rights for students.

But UDC attorney Joseph Julian says LeMelle simply "had no authority" to supersede the decisions of the Student Election Board.

"Unprincipled surrender"

U. of Massachusetts at Amherst Chancellor David Scott neglected his responsibilities by not publicly condemning a controversial student newspaper article on slain Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, says the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

"Chancellor David Scott's weak and unprincipled surrender of the university's moral responsibility to set an appropriate standard of civility on the campus . . . is appalling," the ADL's New England branch wrote in a recent letter to the school's board of trustees.

The *Daily Collegian* article, written by graduate student Hussein Ibish, said, that "Rabin was a monster, a war criminal, ethnic cleanser, mass murderer and terrorist."

Matt Lautour, editor-in-chief of the paper, says he supported Ibish's column because "the newspaper is a forum for debate."

Opposing views

About 30 **U. of Maryland Baltimore County** students gathered recently to protest what they thought to be "offensive" articles in the student newspaper.

Among other things, the students attacked the paper's printing of what a flier called "the offensive image of a gun aimed at Million Man March participants."

The protesters also complained about the *Retriever*'s recruitment process for writers.

Jessica Greaves, managing editor of the *Retriever*, says that representatives from the paper were not invited to the demonstration to give their side of the story. She also says that the staff of the paper is ethnically diverse, despite the protesters' claims to the contrary.

For the Month Starting February 27, 1996

the Westerner WNEC

Classified

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For the Month Starting February 27, 1996

the Westerner WNEC

Editorial

To the Editor:

I am a person who strongly believes in a person's freedom of expression. I also believe in freedom of the press. These are two of the fundamental rights of Americans given to us by the Constitution. However, with those freedoms we also have to tag on freedom of choice. This includes what career path you want to take, where you would like to live, what clothes you want to wear, church to attend, car to drive, and a multitude of other things.

Each one of us who are enrolled at Western New England College came here by choice. I did not, nor did anyone else, have a gun held to my head, by the schools representatives, when I signed up to come here. I, like most other students, looked at many schools, and ultimately decided that WNEC was the school for me because it had what I was looking for.

What am I getting at? Just this. Erik K. Foubert has consistently criticized as many areas of WNEC as he can find, that is his right. However, I, as a mature individual, get up and leave if I don't like a movie, and Mr. Foubert has the same option here at WNEC. It seems silly to me and it also shows his lack of growth, if he is "trying to mature," to stay somewhere that he is so unhappy, especially for three years.

Mr. Foubert has taken to nearly slanderous remarks in reference to Beth Ruppenthal, and Residence Life in the past and now it seems that Martha Ferraiola is his new target. These critical remarks do not show me personally that Mr. Foubert is a maturing young adult. It appears that he is nothing more than one of the spoiled nursery school children he has accused this institution of treating students like.

I love coming to this college and I know there are other students who feel the same way. I take exception to some of the terrible remarks that Mr. Foubert has made and feel that these remarks are unfair and childish. I know that in May of 1998, when my diploma has Western New England College printed across the top I will be proud to have received my degree from this facility. I will also be grateful to the many faculty and staff that helped me along the way.

This college, as every other accredited higher learning institution in this country has rules. If those rules do not fit in with one's personal agenda, then I have a suggestion. GO SOMEWHERE ELSE!

Tammy-Joy Blair

Mad as Hell!!

By Erik K. Foubert
Editorial Editor

For years, my editorials have received criticism to say the least. I have had admirer's of my opinion and have had people hold grudges against me. This is the way things work at WNEC. If you go against the grin, the "click" will attempt to place you into social exile. For those that don't know about the click, it is the elite formation of students that have their heads stuck up a dean's ass. I can't mention names but I'm sure they know who they are. I'm not casting dispersions at individual people but the overall social system at WNEC. For those of you that know me, I don't discriminate from one person to the next. I don't choose to only associate myself with people that I can step on to get to the top of the WNEC society.

My friends range from freshman, sophomore, juniors, and seniors. Most of them can't say the same. Friendship is something that this college is lacking. Many students have "stabbed" their friends in the back to reach the click's "brass ring". How does it feel to be at the top, knowing who you stepped on or screwed over, to get there? At least, I can look myself in the mirror because I've tried to make things better for everyone. I can honestly say that I have made my life here at WNEC difficult by not conforming but my friends can attest to my objectivity, caring, and passions. If they feel that I cannot be objective, caring, or passionate about what I do, then they are not my friend.

I am someone that my friends can depend on. I am someone that can be trusted. I am someone that will go to bat for a friend. I am someone that will push and push until I have helped. I will put myself on the line for almost anyone. I am someone that will get it done or go down trying. I am someone that can say I have great friends and made them by speaking my mind. I am someone that is tired of the college telling me what I can or cannot do. So for the last time, I'm going to live my life the way that I have in the past. I'm going to be able to look at myself in the mirror. Can you?

If you don't like what I have to say, don't read it. There have been many people that like what I've had to say and many that have not. They have called names, yelled obscenities, or just refused to talk to me. I have no problem with that.

In closing, I would just like to say to the students that I hope I have helped and will keep trying until I graduate. I hope this editorial will cause you to look around and think. This college could be great, but you have to make it great.

Dear Editor:

I am a sophomore here at Western New England College. I will probably receive criticism from members of the WNEC community and administration for what I am about to write. But as an individual it's my right to voice my opinion. I have been called a disciple from members of administration but I do not care. I have learned many things good and bad, about life here at WNEC. I am presently on many student activities and clubs, and considered a leader in my roles here at WNEC . . . so here it goes.

I read the WESTERNER faithfully. I continuously find myself drawn to the editorial section. Your editorials are not only amusing, but they are informative. Sometimes, I find myself mailing your section back home so my parents can see what a motivational, and reckless individual you are.

I can relate to your editorials because I find myself in similar situations, or beliefs as you. I can not only praise you for your effort of change, but I can praise you for your tolerance of WNEC.

For instance, if people knew the reason behind your Madness maybe they would understand better . . . As a suggestion print your past article concerning your life at WNEC, and maybe they would form a second opinion about you.

Your commitment to change at this college should be noted. Mr. Foubert you try to better community life by explaining what needs to change here at WNEC. For example continuously voicing your opinion on dryers, peer advisors, and administration.

I have observed Mr. Foubert. His achievements are achievements to us all. He has received criticism, and has been brought up on charges, and yet still has overcome such obstacles. If there is one thing for certain . . . if you went to Mr. Foubert with a problem or an issue that needs to be brought up, he would commit his time, and effort. But most notably Mr. Foubert will get the job done.

Your articles provide this campus with something to talk about. You make life here at WNEC interesting. If people stopped bitching and thought about it this campus would be even more boring if we did not have your articles to talk about.

Mr. Foubert–Thank you!! For being a friend, an ally, and most of all a motivator. You have truly been an influence on my life and its accomplishments.

In closing, I would like to refer to a quote in a past article written by Martha Ferraioli . . . "Mr. Foubert, keep rattling those cages."

Daniel J. Neri

It's Really Up To You

By Devin Peet

I am a firm believer that everyday is a new beginning, and a chance to start fresh. This is even more so for a new year that allows us to put the tribulations of the past behind and look to the future.

As I look around this campus, I have a vision of a beautiful young maiden walking through a field of daisies.

Though beautiful, she is not happy. So I ask her, "Why are you so unhappy?" She softly replies, "Because I have such a beautiful body, but I have no soul."

This apparition may just be a figment of my imagination or it may be a vision of truth.

From my daily observations, I often see groups of aimless and directionless minds at work.

I see people who lack the basis upon which character is built. How many well-organized WNEC events go unattended simply because people don't have the energy to show?

How many opportunities for student action slip away because of the general sense of apathy that reigns on this campus?

People seem satisfied in simply involving themselves in activities that only directly affect them. They lack the insight to look into the future or the will to make an indelible mark.

THIS IS YOUR LIFE!!!

Most of you will spend four of your most important and formative years within the halls of Western New England College.

This college has given us some of the best times of our lives. Don't you think it's time we gave a little back?

At this point, what I think the college needs most is for some life to be breathed back into its body.

With this breath will come depth and character, enlightenment and growth. For too long growth has been stunted because we have been stagnant.

We have to open our minds and realize that the world extends beyond the boundaries of this country. There are other lands and other people who have names, faces, and cultures just like us. Believe it or not, "America is not the world!!!"

There is need for a social awakening on this campus. If it means having to shake this pretty little New England College from the roofs up, so be it!

We have been silent for too long, realize that you are WNEC and, WNEC is you.

If you have a voice, let it be heard. **"Now is the time!!"**

the Westerner

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Happy as Heaven

By Daniel P. McLaughlin

After reading the editorial "Mad as Hell" in the last issue of 'The *Westerner*' I felt compelled to respond. Over and over for the past few years now we in this college community have been exposed to Mr. Foubert's continuous negative comments about the people, programs, and policies that make up this school. I am writing this editorial to offer a different perspective on life here at Western New England College.

There are two types of people on this planet, positive and negative people. Positive people are those who look for the good in everything they do, and when faced with a negative situation, use their resources to turn what appears to be a negative position into a positive learning experience. This type of person is proactive, and if they sense a problem have the determination and confidence to take on the task and do what is in the best interests of all involved.

People who go places in this world, besides the obvious answer of bus drivers, pilots etc., are positive people, those who are not afraid to make mistakes, who do the right thing, and learn from each and every experience.

Then there are those people who look at the negative aspects, and this type of person continuously complains about problems and this and that, but never takes the proper steps to confront the situation and push for a suitable solution. These people just sit back and complain, feeling as though the world is out to get them and that all they can do is gripe about what those in their environment are doing to them. Needless to say, you get nowhere in life through complaining and being negative.

Attitude is everything. A simple message to ponder. Your attitude determines how you see things. People who wear glasses are not the only ones who look through lenses; we as a whole must take charge and look through a variety of lenses, each with a different perspective. By looking through the lenses we get our own clear picture of what we see, and we recognize all of the options. We then decide what we feel to be the most opportune option, and then go for it.

But what if you feel that way and a person with more authority puts up a roadblock and says "No, that is not how we operate here?" Does the positive person begin to rant and rave as to the notion that they are out to get us, or do they accept that as a fact and begin the process of adapting to the situation? I would tend to think that those positive proactive people would accept and change.

But the person with the negative mindset, what do you perceive his or her reaction to be? I would tend to believe we have seen that in the editorials known as "Mad as Hell" over the past few years. It has been a continuous bashing of the college, the people that make up the college, and the policies and programs in place here. All we have read about is that Res Life hampers our living arrangements, that the administration is more concerned with managing money, and that the Peer Advising Program is basically useless.

Res. Life is here to ensure that each and every student has a safe and positive living environment. The rules that are in effect are to provide a healthy arena for all students to grow and prosper, not to hamper or stunt our growth. The Resident Advisors are not in place to baby-sit anyone, but more or less manage and organize their respective areas. They have a job to do; respect them in their efforts to provide you with a positive living environment.

You may not necessarily agree with the rules in effect, but if you are proactive and question as to why these rules are in place, you would find that it is in the best interests of all parties involved that these rules be enforced. And when that roadblock comes along, accept the final decision and adapt to the situation, don't go out of your way to make sure that your RA will have a hard time for the rest of the semester if you are written up or confronted. The RA's have a hard job as it is, don't make their lives worse . . . they are students too.

What business do you think WNEC is in? Western New England College is in the business of providing an environment for students to learn and develop as human beings while being exposed to new ideas and opportunities. The college provides this both inside and outside of the classroom. The Wholistic Student Development program was established to enhance the students lives and take this college to a new level. The administration here is not in the business of making money, as all the money taken in is put back to the students and the programs designed for the students.

And they are not out to get you and make your life miserable. Students have this preconceived notion that authority is bad, especially the higher up you get. This is hardly the case.

First off, the administration and staff enjoy being with the students; that's why they have returned to the college environment. And secondly, they are people too; they represent our college, and they act in the best interests of the college and the community that makes up Western New England College. This institution is in the business of providing an environment for all students to learn and grow. Part of that is learning about responsibility, hence the attendance policy.

The college is preparing you for the rest of your life, and attempting to develop in you the skills that are necessary not only to survive but prosper in life after graduation. The opportunities are available here, all you have to do is be proactive and reach for your goals!

As regards Mr. Foubert's comments on the Peer Advising Program, his thoughts are way off base. I mean you are not even in the right ballpark. The Peer Advising Program is built on the foundation known as Dean Zern, and this man has done a masterful job in developing this program and continuously taking it to new heights. He has had an immeasurable influence on so many lives, myself included. And from its inception Peer Advising has been based on providing every new student a resource, guide, mentor, advocate, and most importantly a friend, all rolled together in the form of a Peer Advisor.

PA's volunteer their time and energy towards assisting new students adjusting to their new environment. And this is a year-long commitment, not just for the first week of the first month of their first semester, but from the time they step on this campus to the day that they complete their last final in May.

The program is in place to promote growth for students entering what is no doubt the most difficult year in one's college career. Constant support, encouragement, and showing a willingness to go beyond the boundary in reaching out to each advisee is why we exist. We want to see new students succeed, and through that experience Peer Advisors grow and succeed themselves.

The Peer Advisors main belief is what is known as PMA, Positive Mental Attitude, and they try and foster that attitude to their advisees, as attitudes are contagious. There is no need to worry about the Peer Advisors. Many words come to mind when you think of this group of students, such as dedicated, confident, successful, resourceful, positive, and on and on.

But the key word in describing the Peer Advisors is family. We take care of each other; we have bonded and are united together towards achieving our goals, and through the leadership contingent of Dean Zern and the PA Chairperson, the resources are in place that if a PA needs anything there are those resources in place that will tend to their needs, and no doubt act just as they would towards a new student.

We hold no hands in this position, but more or less provide an environment for students to feel comfortable and positive, and to make sure that the resources are in place for them to succeed and grow as not just students but people.

And for the PA's that is a year-long commitment. And as Peer Advising Chairperson for this year's group I want to take this opportunity to congratulate them on an outstanding job. They have showed that willingness to go beyond the boundary for each and every advisee, and for that I am extremely proud.

Mr. Foubert stated that the Peer Advising Program is a great organization. He was wrong. It is without a doubt the one of the greatest programs in place here. To get students to volunteer to assist new students in reaching their goals is amazing. You should see how many people want to be a PA. And they don't do it just for the sweatshirt.

The article titled 'Peer Advisors; A Valuable Resource', co-authored by Dean Zern and myself details the position of Peer Advisor. To summarize, they do it because they have a desire to help, to have the chance to make an impact on another person's life, and through this it makes all the time and energy worth it.

If you knew the first thing about the Peer Advising Program, Mr. Foubert, you would have recognized what an outstanding program we have in place, instead of criticizing it and stating that the program needs to be revamped to allow more freedom. We don't hold their hands, but more or less walk next to each and every advisee throughout his or her first year here at WNEC.

I would like to write that my time here at Western New England College has been as close to heaven as possible so far. I have taken risks, pursued opportunities that have arisen, and used my resources. Notice I write use, not abuse the resources available. I have found that my thoughts are the exact opposite of Mr. Foubert's. I am not here to convert everyone to my line of thinking, but to voice my opinion on a number of topics that were in line for a positive spin on things, as opposed to the constant complaining done by others.

I close with a challenge. Don't look at this as me standing on top of the soap box or me preaching my beliefs, but as developing a new perspective for the college community to ponder. The moral of the story is not to complain, but rather take a situation on directly, and be proactive in your pursuit. And if someone of a higher authority says no, then don't complain about what cannot be changed, but learn from the experience, accept it, and move on.

Don't let things linger; negativity will bring you down. You may not necessarily agree with the position taken, but what satisfaction does one get in complaining except in lowering oneself to a lesser level?

And to you Mr. Foubert, I challenge you to look for solutions, get the facts straight, accept what you cannot change, and look at the positive in things rather than complaining and being negative. What I am trying to say is, simply put, get some courage. Just as the lion in 'The Wizard of Oz' had no courage when he met up with Dorothy and the others, as time progressed positive feelings began to flourish, and when all was said and done, the lion had the courage to do anything that he wanted. And when you are positive, your attitude can take you wherever you want.

For me, my heaven has become Western New England College. And I will be forever grateful for the opportunities presented here that have helped me grow and learn as a person.

the Westerner

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All submissions are greatly encouraged.

Election 96: The Game Begins

By Todd McDonald

WNEC–As democratic citizens, we can feel the excitement every four years as another election rolls around.

This year should be no different, as candidates square off to try to win the highest position in the land.

Those running on the Republican ticket are Steve Forbes, Bob Dole, Lamar Alexander, Phil Gramm, and Pat Buchanan.

At this point there is only one major candidate running on the Democratic ticket, our very own President Bill Clinton. He has chosen to run for a second term despite accusations and scandals, such as the Whitewater investigations that are still looming in the background.

One heavily debated issue is taxation. Forbes and Gramm both have a flat tax initiative. What this means is that they want the tax at one rate for all Americans. Forbes has his tax set at 17.5%, while Gramm has yet to determine his rate.

The polls at this point show Bob Dole leading by a very narrow margin over Forbes.

The latest straw poll in Alaska was won by Pat Buchanan. He won the Louisiana caucus, as well, with 13 delegates. Gramm won eight delegates. The reason for Buchanan's victory was that Dole, Forbes, and Alexander all pulled their names off the ballot in Louisiana because it was held before the traditional Iowa caucus.

In Iowa, figures show Dole leading, followed by Forbes, Alexander, Gramm, and Buchanan. In New Hampshire, the race is neck and neck between Dole and Forbes.

When talking with students about the way things are shaping up in election year 96, they seem to have their own opinions.

One WNEC student, Craig Camerlin, said, "If the way the Republican primary campaigns are being run is any indication of the manner in which presidential campaigns will be run, the people of the United States are in store for one of the sleaziest elections since Kennedy/Nixon."

When asked about Clinton's chances for reelection, another WNEC student, Dave Guillmette replied, "As far as the Democratic primary goes, Clinton is running basically unopposed with only token opposition. His chances of winning re-election is up in the air and depends on who the Republicans nominate. What Clinton's new platform will be is anybody's guess." Underneath all the sleaze and slander, this campaign season should prove to be an interesting time for our country. So pay close attention to what's going on and hold on tight because we should all be in for a good ride.

Students Upset With WNEC

By Peter Alexopoulos

WNEC–Commuters and on-campus students are annoyed with a wide variety of WNEC policies and provisions. After interviewing several male and female students, I have become aware of the wide variety of complaints the average WNEC student has. Several students were more than happy to share their complaints and suggestions.

One student was upset with Dean Kowalski. The student had approached Dean Kowalski with hopes of changing a history elective into a course that would allow the student to achieve a minor without having to overerowd his schedule with six courses. Even though the student was maintaining a 3.5 GPA, Dean Kowalski turned him down.

Frustrated, the student went above Dean Kowalski to speak with Dr. Stevens, Vice President of Academic Administrating, who complied with the student's request. The student later suggested that it would be nice if "Dean Kowalski could give people a break and be more understanding."

This same student was also upset with the capacities of the computers in the Writing Center. He said, "The computers still have 5 1/4" drives and 286 processors."

I investigated and discovered that the computers were very out of date in the Writing Center. When I told the student, he stated, "God strike me dead!"

Naturally, he suggested the college either dramatically update the computers or buy new ones.

When I spoke to a student who lives on campus, I discovered a different variety of complaints. This student was quite upset with the price of books. He added, "They should have cheaper alternatives."

This student was also upset with public safety. He said, "Public safety is outrageous when it comes to traffic violations."

He explained that he received a ticket in Gateway for accidentally driving the wrong way down a one-way entrance. He said that as he was driving, a cruiser blocked his front path and another blocked his rear, while their lights flashed everywhere. He said, "They acted toward me as if I was a drug dealer or something."

I asked what this student liked about WNEC, and he replied, "Grounds crew does a good job."

A female commuter student is upset that WNEC took mailboxes away from commuter students. She asked, "How are we supposed to know what's going on around here?"

This student is also upset because her advisors are never around when she needs them. She would like it if they had made more time available to students.

A female student living on campus is upset with housing conditions. She feels that Gateway apartments are too small. She's also agitated with the fact that "sophomores living in Gateway have to be on a meal plan."

Every student I interviewed was frustrated with the computer facilities at WNEC. One of the greatest complaints had to do with the on-line services and E-Mail. One common complaint was "E-mail and the Internet are always down." Another said, "The access we get is slower than molasses!"

Students are sick of hearing excuses such as "we don't have the funds." The feeling from most students is that we pay lab fees and hefty tuitions and deserve better computers.

These are just some of the feelings of students at WNEC. Fortunately, some students have some good feelings for WNEC. Many students are happy with the work the faculty does in assisting students with their educations.

Students hope that WNEC will listen to their grievances and make some adjustments to give them a more fulfilling experience at WNEC.

Complaints, Complaints, Complaints

By Keith Farina

WNEC–You wouldn't believe how many complaints the students at WNEC have about their school. It's not even just one thing that stands out when you ask the students if they have any complaints about WNEC. For every student that you ask, there is a different complaint.

For example, the Churchill computer lab bothered one WNEC student. Mike Jellson, a senior, said, "The Churchill computer lab needs to be updated because some of the computers are too slow, and it takes too long to do your work." Jellson has a point; many people have complained about the computers in Churchill, and it's probably about time the school updated some of them.

Another complaint was about all of the seemingly unnecessary ticketing that goes on around the campus. As Kyle Potter, a senior, stated, "Gateway residents are often ticketed for driving to class; this is ridiculous. When it's cold outside or I have a night class, I should be allowed to drive to class without being penalized."

Yet another complaint was voiced by a WNEC senior about how some of the classes are offered here. Darren Pratt is frustrated with the system. He stated, "I have three night classes this semester because this was the only time they were offered. The school should make sure that classes are offered at more than one time." Pratt even voiced his opinion about this topic in a recent issue of the *Westerner*.

Lastly, another student complained a little about some of the students at WNEC. Kristine Farnham, a sophomore transfer student, complained about how some of the people here do not easily allow new students to enter into their groups of friends. She stated, "There are too many cliques of friends here at WNEC who do not socialize with other people."

As you can see, the students of WNEC certainly have their fair share of complaints about the school. Some of them can and should be corrected, but most likely they never will. WNEC seems to be famous for letting problems continue to grow until they are almost impossible to correct.

A School Without Financial Aid?

By Daniel P. McLaughlin

Such may be the case here, as well as at colleges and universities across the country. As the increase in the intake of illegal drugs has risen, so too have the eyebrows of college administrators and trustees throughout the United States.

The reason . . . a federal statute known as the Controlled Substances Act. Part of the federal omnibus drug legislation enacted November 18, 1988 is what is known as the Drug-free Schools and Communities Act. Provisions of this legislation direct recipients of federal grants or contracts to certify that they will provide a drug-free environment; individuals receiving funding directly from the federal government will also have to certify that their conduct will be drug free. The Department of Education has stated that individual Pell Grant recipients will have to certify that they are drug free to receive their student aid awards.

If colleges and universities do not promote drug-free work places, drug-free awareness programs, or establish procedures for reporting violation, then they are subject to sanctions including suspension of payments, suspension, or termination of grants, or debarment, thus making the institution ineligible to receive grants or awards from any federal agency during the term of debarment.

Students applying for financial aid involving federal funding must certify that they are drug-free, and that they will remain drug-free, in order to receive such federally funded student aid awards.

Every year presidents and chancellors across the country are sent a simple form to be signed, stating that their respective institute has established a drug-free environment.

Every fall college administrations publish a statement on Drugs and Alcohol. Every student attending Western New England College was mailed his or her own information on this issue, and topics raised in this publication include the consequences that result from failure to comply with the laws, and the effects of drugs and alcohol to your body.

Now I can bet a majority of you in our college community simply glanced at this and tossed it aside. But the information contained in that statement, along with the federal statutes enacted by Congress have made this topic of the utmost importance across the country. Simply put, if Western New England College is no longer considered a drug-free environment, then all financial aid, work study included, will be taken away.

This article is not to be seen as a scare tactic that should send chills down the spines of everyone, but rather a statement of truth about the consequences that result should you choose to involve yourself with this.

As a member of the Student Affairs Committee for the Board of Trustees, I volunteered to write this article at our last meeting to ensure that everyone in our college community is aware of the truth involving drugs and the penalty for failure to comply.

My fellow committee members and I found that this was a relevant topic to discuss, since drug abuse has reached new levels with students across the country. Drug and alcohol abuse is a widespread problem in our society today and has caused serious problems. No one has a solution to the drug plague that has come about. We hear of the war against drugs, but as witnessed on today's college campuses, students are blind to the information about drugs and alcohol.

No one is here to tell you what to do but yourself, as you are in charge of your life, but this article is simply a notice to ensure that everyone in our college community understands the consequences of drugs and alcohol and is willing to pay the price should failure to comply with federal statutes result. So play it safe, be smart, and understand what you are getting yourself into.

Sophia's–What Do You Mean You Don't Deliver?

By Stephen Carroll

I came home two weeks ago to my Gateway apartment after a long, hard day, feeling very hungry. I picked up the phone and dialed Sophia's to order some hot buffalo wings, only to be told that they no longer deliver to Western New England College.

In the past Sophia's, a local favorite for college students, delivered to the college campus. Sophia's is almost a part of Western New England College because it is so close and fellow students work there. In fact, the delivery people were all students at the college.

A former delivery person at Sophia's said, "Tommy, the owner, felt that it was no longer profitable to have a delivery person for WNEC."

I don't want to get anyone too upset. You can still have food from Sophia's delivered. There is a delivery service in Springfield that delivers from area restaurants. It is called Delivery Express, and the phone number is 781-0800. The only problem with using Delivery Express is that you call up, and then they call Sophia's. Delivery Express then has to go pick up the food.

This can take a little longer compared to when Sophia's used to deliver. Also, if Sophia's messes up the order, then there might be a problem with getting the order right when Delivery Express returns the food to get the correct order.

Even though we can still have Sophia's delivered by Delivery Express, students will miss having other students deliver their food.

Too Much Talk, Too Little Action in Society

Doubtless you've already heard of that mythological man about which I am to speak. He sits in his chair watching the TV news. And whenever news comes on about politics, he yells at the announcer and complains how rotten this nation's leadership is, while he himself sits in his chair and does nothing. This, "Arm-chair Warrior", as he is called, knows everything there is to know about politics and controversial issues. And he shares his"wisdom" with every Tom, Dick, and Harry that will listen; but he himself does nothing. There are even talk show hosts who do this.

Hence, I am speaking to you about the idea of complaining much but doing little. The classic religious example of this was two thousand years ago, when Jesus Christ attacked the Jewish leaders with such sayings as, "Saying, The scribes and Pharisees sit in Moses seat; All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works; for they say, and do not." (Matthew 23: 2, 3).

First, I would speak to you who do complain about society's problems. If you think society is so bad, and if you think that the leaders of this nation, or the leaders of this state, or the leaders of this community are doing such a rotten job, then you should get up and do something about it. But since a lot of you don't, obviously you don't believe your own criticisms. I do call upon you to consider what is written, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." (Exodus 20: 16).

For when you complain about life's problems, and then do nothing about them, have you not lied? When you say something you don't really believe to be true: is that not a lie? What difference does it make, whether you have lied to others, or you have lied to yourself, or you have lied to God? Shall it ruin you more or less? Does it matter whether the lie is deliberate? But I say to you that if you base your life on a false premise, then you shall eventually be defeated; and it shall not matter whether you intended to lie or not.

What do you think? An LSD addict does not know he cannot fly. If he jumps off a cliff, will his ignorance save him from death? No? Then neither shall your ignorance save you from ruin. Living life based on lies shall not prosper. And when you complain about life's troubles, and do nothing, you believe a lie. DON'T DO THAT. If you're too lazy to do anything about the problems and troubles that assail you in this life, then be so lazy as to cease your complaining. Go hide in a corner somewhere, and be defeated quietly; for victory shall waste no time for the man or woman, who has great wisdom, and does not act on it.

Many people wonder why this nation has a problem with rapists, and drunk drivers, and murderers, welfare recipients, and drug dealers; but then they go out, womanize, sleep around, carouse, get drunk, and have parties. Solomon speaks of this, "WINE is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." (Proverbs 20: 1). Hence, the point: if you want life's problems to be conquered, you must be the leader at conquering.

It was Jesus who said this, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come into him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am sat down with my Father in his throne." (Revelation 3: 19, 20, 21). What is he talking about? Is he not speaking of conquering? For anybody who has ever studied the Gospel of Christ knows that he is famous for having conquered one thing: Death. He died on a cross and rose from the dead, so that, as the passage says, whoever opens the doors of his or her heart and invites Jesus in, shall partake of the same victory that Christ won: Eternal life.

Hence, the point. If the troubles of this life are so bad and so rotten, that they warrant your complaints, then they ought to warrant your action; and also you should try to change it. But I claim that a lot of you would have tried, if only you thought you were able. Therefore, if life is not the rose garden you would like it to be, and you cannot change it yourself; then the only hope that remains is to turn for help to a Savior who can. Will you do it?

You could have eternal life right here and now, if only you would pray ONE PRAYER admitting you're a sinner, and receiving Jesus as your Savior. "He that hath the Son hath life." (I John 5: 12). The word, "Hath", in both cases is present tense, and NOT FUTURE TENSE. God Almighty offers you eternal paradise, if only you trust Jesus as your Savior. Why reject Him?

But just in case you have doubts, the matter is pursuable. The idea that I propose is not unheard of or uncommon. There are whole churches that are centered on this idea. I go to one: New Life Baptist Church Academy 317 Westwood Ave., East Longmeadow, MA. To come and visit is not forbidden. God bless you.

Homophobia on Campus

Did I get your Attention? Good. I thought so. Why is it that Homophobia is still a buzz word these days? This is the 90's, and I thought that most people are used to finding out about other people's sexuality, without making a big deal about it. Sure, during the 90's everyone was scared of "coming out of the close," but I didn't really realize how much people today still are ignorant about this topic. Here in Springfield, we are only 20 minutes away from Northampton. Northampton has been named the biggest Lesbian/Gay town in the whole country! Sure, maybe on bigger campuses like UMASS, alternative lifestyles aren't shunned, but why should smaller campuses like ours be any different?

I'm bisexual and overhead a lot of things guys say in the locker room, hallways, and dorm rooms, and am shocked. One guy said that all of us "queers" should be put on an island and be put to death. Other guys feel that if they hang out with someone who might be or is gay or bi, they are afraid that "we" are going to sexually molest them. Please–don't flatter yourself!

Really, have you ever seen headlines stating "HOMO JUMPS HERETO"? Another guy said that he beat up some guy "really good" because "the homo" told him he was good looking. Since when do people normally get beat up for giving a compliment? If someone had the guts to come over and tell you to your face that you were good looking, the least you could do is say "thanks," and be big enough to just walk away.

On the "Jenny Jones" talk show about 6 months ago, they aired an episode about gay people who wanted to "come out" to their friends and loved ones. This one kid, around 17 years old, told his "BEST" friend he was in love with him. Shortly after the episode ended, the "best" friend killed him by shooting him because he just couldn't accept the news. That's sick!

You can't pick a homosexual out of a crowd–they don't have flashing neon signs over their heads. 1 out of 15 people are gay or bi. That means if you know about 14 straight people, you could be the 15th statistic of who's gay or bi! I also don't understand with what's wrong with being loved by someone else regardless of their gender? If love is love, then it's as simple as that.

A lot of people have the idea that bisexual people are "confused" or it's just a phase we're going through right now. Sure being bi- can be confusing because when you are young, you probably dated a couple of girls and thought: "I'm not one of them," but you just suppress your real feelings. Then when you get old enough and have a chance of being loved by someone the same sex, you think that you're gay, and forget all about liking girls for the moment. But the relationship doesn't last, and now you are really confused as to whether you like guys or girls.

Well, if you are truly bi- you should know that there isn't a "bigger" preference. Being gay or bi- isn't easy. Sometimes I feel that I'm the only one on campus who sees this. I've come out to my close circle of friends and they've been so supportive. I couldn't have done it without their unconditional love. I've only lost one friend, and wish that we could work out our differences. I don't expect him to change his point of view on how he feels, but just to accept mine.

I Need No Defense

By Martha M. Ferraioli

I have to thank Eric Foubert for bringing my name up in his article because it gives me an opportunity to address two issues: 1) Why I don't write editorials on a regular basis and 2) the peer advising program.

First, I do not write editorials on a daily basis because I am too busy with Peer Advising, but rather I am busy period. As a senior about to graduate, I find that most of my time is consumed revising my resume, doing homework, working, and taking care of other responsibilities. Bluntly, I really don't have time to worry about the details of the administration. To be honest, I don't need to write editorials any longer as most college administrators know me by name. As a result, I do not have to sit any longer at my computer to express my sentiments on asinine college policies. I can approach any college administrator and have a discussion. I do believe this is possible because of my previous involvement with the *Westerner* and of my current status as a senior. It has taken me a long time to get to where I am today as both a student leader and a person who knows that when she graduates she will have fond memories of WNEC. Last year I stepped down as editorial editor because it was time to move on. Eric Foubert took over my position, and although I do not agree with his methods at times, I do understand his eagerness to comment on college policies which hinder students from progressing "wholistically." I will not go on to discuss past issues which I wrote about as they are in the past. However, I believe those who have read my articles understood what I was accomplishing by writing them.

Second. As for being a Peer Advisor–I decided to become a PA late in my college career. I felt as a senior I could give new students some advice on how to handle the WNEC experience. I am very fortunate to have a fantastic group of advisees, who have both impressed me with their accomplishments and their maturity for handling the problems they each have encountered. I became a Peer Advisor because I wanted to. I remembered how it felt to be a new student here. I remember all too well the insecurities I felt because I was not a "skinny bopper." I remember how strange it felt to live with someone I didn't really know and to be away from home for the first time. I came to WNEC because it was a small school. I wanted and at that time, needed an atmosphere where people cared. My Peer Advisor did care, although at the time the Peer Advisor Program contained mostly skinny bopper PA's who I felt could not really relate to their advisees. Dean Zern has changed the composition of the Peer Advisors to give the program more diversity and as such, I feel that after observing the program for the past four years, I can say this year was the best year for the Peer Advisors.

Continued on page 13

From Page 12

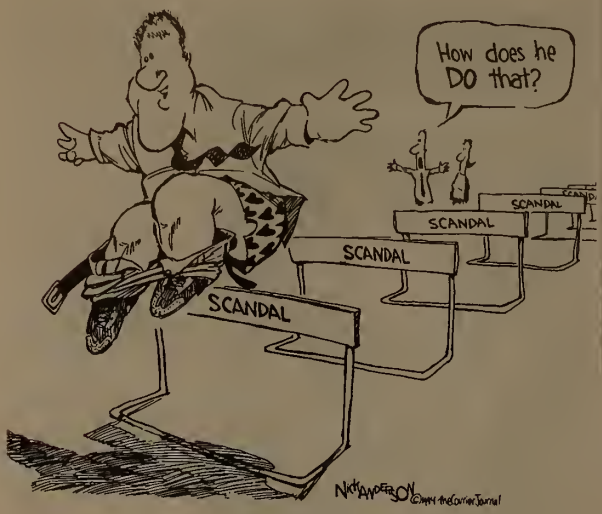
Being a PA is an experience which has allowed me to give something to the new students who will be here long after I am gone. It has given me the opportunity to meet new people, to learn from them, and to change first impressions. During my time as a Peer Advisor I have not held any hands, but rather helped my advisees maintain their independence by encouraging them to be independent. I am not a Big Sister, a Baby-sitter, or a Parent and no P/A should be one. We are here to recall how awkward we felt as a new student and to help those new students who feel awkward fit in. Those who knuw me, know that I am sincere and do things because I want to, not because I have to.

To my fellow PA's, do not take offense to what Eric Foubert said. He has a right to his opinion as did I in my editorials. Peer Advisors are a special breed, they always have been and always will be. Just knowing this should be enough. Don't let petty details drive you nuts!

Enough for now,

Martha M. Ferraiuli
Class uf 1996

Ask Bob



Dear Bob,

I am a junior here at W.N.E.C and so confused that I don't know what to do. All summer long I had a crush on this girl at W.N.E.C. She was so sweet, gentle, caring, and beautiful. We had a rough start, because she had some problems that she had to deal with. As the relationship went on I grew to love this woman. Then the trouble started. I would be constantly on an emotional roller cuaster. One minute she would be the sweetest girl in the world then the next minute she would be a bitch. I couldn't even go out on weekends without having an argument with her. What got me is the fact that on Valentines Day I slept in her bed and she slept on the floor. She would always keep me guessing on how she felt. Then one weekend at a party I met this girl who was really cool. We talked a lot and left it at that. Then recently my friend and I were invited to a party by her. I went and we talked more and I got tu know her a lot better. So much that I ended up sleeping over there. I did hook up with her but that is as far as it went. I really like this girl but I don't know what I should do? HELP!!!!!!

Confused!

Dear Cunfused,

The feel of the article you submitted says that you are happier with the lady you're with. The advice of Bob is to follow your heart with this new relationship and don't look back. The past should stay where it belongs. If you have any other specific problems, feel free to write back.

Bob

Dear Bob:

My roommate has recently met the acquaintance of a young lady. His attitude has cumpletely changed. I am wondering is this a result of the new relationship, or a change of heart? There are still conflicts between us. Should I address the issues while he is in this wondrous mood.

HELP

Sincerely Confused.

Dear Sincerely Confused,

The best thing for you to do is address the issues at hand. Residence Life believes that open ***communication*** is the best means to a solution. We would agree to a point. If things get too heated, retreat and count your blessings.

Bob

Dear Bob:

I have been dating my beautiful girlfriend for three months now. She's a sweetheart. A friend of mine recently inquired about my ex-girlfriend. I told him to go for it. When I talk to him on a personal level now, he doesn't seem to want to discuss the topic, in fear that I may screw things up. I noticed recently that he wanted to get together and hang out, when I asked if he was going to see my ex-girlfriend, he replied "she went home." Does he want to hang out because she's not on campus, or does he want to hang out and be frieods?

Sincerely,

Weary

Dear Weary,

This friend is not behaving like a true friend. Friends are supposed to be there no matter what or who comes along. Test the waters . . . while she is on campus ask him to do something. That is the only way to tell if the friendship is at risk. Friends are one of the only consistent things in life and they are to be treated as you would like to be treated.

Bob

WNEC'S NEW ADVICE COLUMN

If you have a problem, concern, or just for fun, write to:
Ask Bob, C/O The Westerner, Student Publications Office
Or just slip it under the door and our group of analysts will come up with a solution or commentary.

Coming Soon!!!

GATEWAY BLOCK PARTY

Food, Fun, and Entertainment.

Ideas and suggestions can be sent to the RHA office in the Campus Center c/o Kevin Robbins.

Video Contest

Attention college students: Enter The Christophers' Ninth Annual Video Contest and exchange your creativity for cash. The deadline for entries is Friday, June 7, 1996. The contest, specifically designed for college students, includes cash awards of $3,000, $2,000 and $1,000 for the top three entries and five honorable mention prizes of $500 each. In addition to the cash prizes, the winning entries will also be featured on the weekly syndicated television program, "Christopher Closeup."

To participate, students must interpret on film or video, in five minutes or less, the Christopher belief that one person can make a difference. Previous winners have used a variety of techniques such as animation, music video, news report, documentary, comedy, and drama to capture this theme.

The competition is sponsored annually by The Christophers, a New York-based international non-profit media organization which produces the syndicated television series, "Christopher Closeup." The program airs on more than 60 commercial television stations and 400 cable outlets across the United States.

All currently enrolled college students in good standing are eligible to enter. Productions must be five minutes or less in length and may be submitted on VHS or 3/4 inch cassette. A completed entry form must accompany each submission.

Official entry forms are available from college Mass Media or Communications Departments or by writing to The Christophers, College Contest, 12 East 48th Street, New Ynrk, NY 10017; or call 212-759-4050. The Christophers was founded in 1945 to encourage individuals of every age and faith to use their unique abilities to bring about constructive change. Their motto is: "It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness."

From Dusk 'Til Dawn

By Charlie Beaupre

George Clooney and Quentin Tarantino co-star as a murderous hoodlum and his psychopathic brother, on the run from Texas cops after a bloody spree of murder and robbery.

The brothers hijack an RV, being driven by a vacationing former minister (Harvey Keitel) and his two kids (Juliette Lewis and Ernest Liu), and they all cross the border into Mexico.

But just as they relax, the real trouble starts: While hanging out in a sleazy roadhouse, they realize that they are at a bar where no one is who they seem to be. The group finds themselves in a coven of horrific, blood-thirsty vampires!

We're not talking about your average vampire who's suave like Anne Rice's Lestat, or the original Count himself. There's no evil leader that takes charge, which makes the movie kind of boring. The vamps attack in waves of gore; the second half of "From Dusk 'Til Dawn" becomes a parade of stakes in the heart, decapitations, emulations and explosions, but the unlikely heroes might just as well be swatting giant mosquitoes.

The new element here is the relationship between the hoodlum brothers. Clooney (of TV's "E.R.") plays the older, more mature Seth Gecko. "I'm a professional thief," he says, "I only kill when it's necessary." However, his younger brother Richard (Tarantino) is a loose cannon, a wacky psycho and frequent sex offender.

This is a must-see for any die hard horror-blood-and-guts type moviegoer! You'll be surprised at Clooney if you're a fan of his from "E.R." Tarantino hasn't lost his touch either! NOT a date movie! (Just in case you were wondering).

For more information check out the web page: http://www.obs-us.com/obs/english/films/mx/dusk/intro.htm

By Charlie Beaupre

John Travolta plays Major Vic Deakins, an Air Force pilot with a lot of attitude and a unique rivalry with his partner, Captain Riley Hale, played by Christian Slater. The two men are assigned to a training exercise flying a stealth bomber over the Utah desert, a mission which is quite routine except for the presence of live nuclear warheads on board the bomber. Another exception to the routine is when Deakins ejects Hale, crashes the bomber and hijacks the warheads, intending to hold them for a $250 million ransom.

While the government scrambles to locate the missing weapons–known in military parlance as "broken arrows"–Hale stays on Deakins' tail, assisted by park ranger Terry Carmichael (Samantha Mathis). As the countdown begins, Hale and Carmichael may be all that stand between Deakins and his plans to turn the Southwest into a "quiet neighborhood for about the next 10,000 year."

The action in "BROKEN ARROW" is consistently inventive, full of the kind of moments that will have you responding with body English. Woo does some extremely interesting things with helicopter blades; guns appear in unlikely places, and an underground explosion creates a tremendous ground wave effect. "BROKEN ARROW" does what you ask an action film to do: keep you interested and excited.

John Woo is overly fond of slow-motion shots of people being hurled from explosions, and yes, he sometimes appears to be trying too hard to make his American film look like every other Hollywood testosterone-fest.

For the Month Starting February 27, 1996

the Westerner WNEC

A&E

Alicia Silverstone and Kevin Dillon in the suspense thriller "True Crime."

True Crime

In this suspense thriller, which will be released on March 26, Alicia Silverstone plays Mary Giordano, a girl who can't wait to grow up. Since childhood, Mary has been fascinated by crime and detective work. But no case she has read about in the pages of True Crime magazine has become an obsession like the mutilation-murder of her classmate, 14-year-old Kathleen Donlevy. Mary begins her own probe into this grisly and mysterious crime which left behind no suspects, no witnesses and scarcely a lead. Following her instincts, Mary uncovers a link between a traveling carnival and several other unsolved murders of teenage girls along the West Coast; the pattern of a bona fide serial killed.

She teams up with Tony Campbell (Kevin Dillon), an ambitious young police cadet who becomes her unofficial partner in her investigation. As their investigation proceeds, Mary realizes she is falling in love for the first time and she struggles with her new and exciting feelings for Tony. Just when Mary and Tony become convinced they have found the killer, Mary finds incriminating evidence in Tony's own apartment. Horrified, Mary realizes she may be forced to prove the man she's falling in love with could be a murderer–that is, if she doesn't end up dead first.

Any changes you want to see in A & E?

Ideas? Suggestions?

Drop them off in the Student Publications Office.

TV CONNECTIONS

In The House With LL Cool J

By Andrea Denise Higgins
A&E Editor

When "In The House" made its debut on NBC as a mid-season replacement in April of 1995, the future did not look bright. Mid-season replacements are rarely picked up as full-time series, and **LL Cool J's** (James Todd Smith) inexperience with television acting was questionable. However, everyone was impressed. The reviews were great, and **LL Cool J** proved to be an outstanding actor.

Unfortunately, I did not get the chance to see an episode of "In The House" until this season. It was difficult for me to give up my stereotype of **LL Cool J** and seriously sit down and watch the show. It used to be that when I thought of him, I thought of a tough rapper boasting "I'm gonna knock you out/Momma said knock you out." With that image in mind, imagine what I was thinking the first time I saw him portraying a "nanny." I was pleasantly surprised and thoroughly entertained.

LL Cool J plays Marion Hill, a former Running Back (his career was cut short due to a "freak accident") for the Los Angeles Raiders. Marion is planning a big comeback to the NFL, so he is involved in a lot of physical training, which involves money (money that he doesn't have). In order to solve his cash flow problems, he moves into the apartment above his garage and rents his main house to Jackie Warren (**Debbie Allen**) and her two children Tiffany (**Maia Campbell**) and Austin (**Jeffrey Wood**).

Jackie has a very interesting story. Her husband announced his mid-life crisis and married a much younger woman, forcing her to build a new life and get a job for the first time. With only two years of law school under her belt, she manages to land a job as a legal assistant. This job is very hectic and involves a lot of hours, forcing her to find someone to look after her children while she's on the job.

Although the last person she wants to hire is Marion, she is left without an alternative. With a little convincing from her children, she agrees to let Marion look after them. Needless to say, their ideas about child-rearing are very different, which makes for a lot of humorous moments. However, they realize that the two children need direction and guidance, and they'll do their best to provide it for them.

The cast is full of talent. Emmy Award winner **Debbie Allen**, formerly of "Fame," is extremely versatile. It is interesting to see her in the role of a divorced mother. She handles the role with class and humor. As I mentioned earlier, **LL Cool J** has transferred his talent from rap star to television star beautifully.

Maia Campbell (whom you might recognize from the film "Poetic Justice"), does an incredible job playing Jackie's overly dramatic, boy-crazy, teenage daughter.

In my opinion, the highlight of the show is newcomer **Jeffrey Wood**. His portrayal of Jackie's brainy, yet lovable, son Austin, is a combination of Steve Urkel and Gary Coleman. He delivers a lot of cute one-liners like a natural comedian.

These stars take often simple and unoriginal storylines and make them new and enjoyable.

Hopefully, NBC will give the writers a chance to develop the storylines and characters to their full potential. It is a venture that will definitely be worth the time. "In The House" is already a big hit, but as the storylines progress, it will get even better.

If you haven't had the chance to catch an episode of "In The House" yet, it is on Monday nights at 8:30.

"In The House" information provided by 1995 Notional Broadcosting Compony, Inc. on-line.

A Sour Reunion on MTV

By Andrea Denise Higgins
A&E Editor

What do you get when you reunite old friends and introduce new ones? MTV's attempt at making money with "The Real World Reunion" and a nightmare for anyone watching it. The producers took the casts from the first three seasons (New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco) and brought them together for a reunion and a question and answer session with fans at Universal Studios in Hollywood.

MTV's Alison Stewart hosted the symposium where fans could hear the answers to their burning questions about the show, such as "How do the different casts feel about each other?;" "Why didn't Eric and Julie hook up?;" "Is Jon still a virgin?;" "Would you do it again?;" "Do you feel MTV exploited you?;" and "Did the editors create you?" This segment was overbearing.

The New York cast (minus Andre) acted like they were better and more mature than everyone else because they were the first cast and they didn't throw anyone out.

The Los Angeles cast (minus Dominic and Aaron) members seemed almost absent from the conversation. Tami and Davjd discussed the events which led up to David being thrown out of the house and apologized to one another.

The San Francisco cast (minus Pam who made a brief pre-recorded appearance) seemed the most bitter. As one audience member put it, they "went through hell." They were all still very visibly shaken up over the death of their housemate Pedro Zamora, and still very much annoyed at the roommate they had to throw out (Puck).

Puck is a 90-minute show by himself. He made the show seem like, what Beth A. from the L.A. cast pointed out, an episode of "Ricky Lake." There was yelling, swearing, and almost physical abuse as Judd went off on Puck for his response to Pedro's death ("Good riddance. He was gay, so he deserved to die of AIDS"). Puck provoked every person in the symposium, acted like he was the coolest and most famous person on the face of the earth, and quite honestly ruined the entire show.

Prior to the broadcast, reports surfaced that Puck was kicked out of the reunion. I wish he would have been. He removed himself midway through the symposium because he didn't feel he was getting any respect or fair treatment. Unfortunately, he returned ten minutes later. He showed the other casts why he was kicked out of the house. He's obnoxious!

The monotony of the 90-minute special was broken up with scenes from the show and clips of what the cast members are doing now (Tami's wedding to the New Jersey Nets' Kenny Anderson, the birth of Irene's baby, Jon's country music career, Beth S.'s wedding, Heather's rap career, Eric's work on "The Grind," and the revelation of the romance between Judd and Pam). There was also a touching tribute to the life of Pedro Zamora, which brought tears to cast members from every season.

The most refreshing aspect of the reunion was the surprise appearance by the London cast (minus Jay). It was visible that the previous three casts did not think that they belonged there, but the audience was pleased to see them. The members of this cast have been called boring because they didn't have substantial conflicts, but I praise them for this. Out of the four casts, they seem to be the most intelligent and well adjusted.

"The Real World Reunion" served many purposes, depending on who the person is. For MTV, it was a way to make money (the show will be released to videotape soon). For the cast members, it seemed to be a matter of "closure." This reunion was a way for them to put an end to that chapter in their lives once and for all. For Puck, it was a chance to be dramatic and possibly get another casting offer in Hollywood. For the fans, it was a way to get re-acquainted with the friends they grew close to (if only through a television screen) and see what they are up to now.

As I mentioned, "The Real World Reunion" will be available on video in the coming weeks, (an exact date was not known at press time), for those of you who missed it on MTV. This video is supposed to have "extras" that didn't make the final tape of the 90-minute special, such as the audition videos that landed the cast members a spot in the "fishtank." However, if you just want to know what is going on with the cast members now, I recommend that you buy the book The Real Real World. Reading about them is a lot less frustrating.

The Truth Is Out There

By Charlie Beaupre

"X-Files", Fox's hit show on Friday nights at 9 p.m., has captured all kinds of audiences. The main two characters of the show are **David Duchovny** and **Gillian Anderson** who play Fox Mulder and Dana Scully respectively.

They work for the FBI, solving the unknown cases called the X-Files. There really are government files here in the U.S. that are called the X-Files, although this show is completely fictitious.

Each week, Mulder gets more of a taste of the truth–if extraterrestrial really exists. Mulder's sister was abducted when she was a little girl. So his mission in life is to find out the truth and get her back.

Mulder's partner, Dana Scully, is the scientific one. The one who has an explanation for all paranormal activities that she comes across. She helps him along with the struggle and often gets wrapped up in all the mystery herself.

This show has dealt with every type of monster and then some, from our classic vampires and gargoyles to the creepy unknown. "X-Files" is in its third season and going strong. You can visit their web page at: http://www.the-xfiles.com. Each week you can check out the updated episode guide, and download pictures and video clips before it's on t.v.

Waiting To Exhale

By Jesse Knowlin

"Leaving Crazed Fans Breathless!!!"

What do you get when four of the most talented, respected divas from the entertainment world are all put on one big screen together? You get Terry McMillan's most talked about film, "Waiting to Exhale", which deals with the day-to-day turmoils and pitfalls that women face in relationships.

"Waiting to Exhale" stars pop queen **Whitney Houston**, who portrays the character Savannah. This is a woman who relocates in hopes of getting her career (as a television producer) off the ground, finding "Mr. Right," and of course, reuniting with longtime friends Robin, Gloria, and Bernadine. Savannah is soon visited by an old flame (played by **Dennis Haysbert**, "Love Field") who has been dying to see her and possibly pick up where they left off. Savannah is mesmerized by his charm, although she doesn't know that he brought a lot more than his luggage. He's got a whole package (if you know what I mean).

Actress **Lela Rochon** (known for her roles in "Harlem Nights" and "Boomerang"), stars as Robin, a woman who reaches nothing but dead ends when it comes to finding the right man. She's been with the worst of men, ranging from the typical "two-timer" to a "crackhead".

Also making an astounding debut, is **Loretta Devine** (starred in "DreamGirls" and the now defunct comedy show "Sugar & Spice") playing the character of Gloria, a hairdresser who battles losing weight and losing the only man in her life, her son. When it is time for her son to go away to college, Gloria can't accept the fact that he is an adult and must spread his wings and fly. However, her mentality changes when a new bachelor (**Gregory Hines**) moves next door and shows Gloria that she needs to let her son see the world, and make room for another man who can romantically fill her empty space.

Last but definitely not least is "Academy-Award Winner" **Angela Bassett**, (most notable in "What's Love Got To Do With It", etc...), who stars as Bernadine, a woman who invests eleven hard years in trying to maintain a happy marriage but doesn't succeed because her husband decides to leave her and their two kids for another woman.

Together these four women do a superb job supporting each other, and making the audience laugh, at the expense of males most of the time. The roles assumed by **Houston, Rochon,** and **Bassett** signify the typical "sassy, ladies of the 90's attitude," which brings the story into a more realistic point of view. Likewise, **Devine's** motherly, sympathetic character adds a touch of warmth.

"Waiting to Exhale" is surely a "true to life" drama that I would encourage anyone to put on their "got-to-see" list. To the fellas who may think that this is a film all about male-bashing, let me conclude by saying that you don't have to hold your breath. To know what I'm talking about, you would have to see the movie.

Motion Picture Soundtrack

Following the highly anticipated, box office hit movie "Waiting To Exhale", comes the original soundtrack. What you may not have known, however, is the fact that this soundtrack features an all female cast of musical divas from the old school as well as the new school. They include **Whitney Houston, TLC, Aretha Franklin, Patti LaBelle,** and **Brandy** just to name a few.

If that isn't enough to catch the attention of all you R & B listeners, let me mention that every track was written and produced by one of the best producers of our time–**Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds.** It was quite impressive to finally hear the many diverse sides displayed by this phenomenal producer.

Whitney Houston wrote, co-produced, and has three tracks on the album as well, (why am I not surprised!!!). Anyway, many of the songs coincide with certain scenarios from the film, and furthermore, they express several angles of love.

For example "Not 'Gon Cry" is performed by the "Queen of Hip Hop Soul," **Mary J. Blige.** She puts her heart and emotions into this song by crooning through her rough but gospel influenced voice: "Eleven Years, out of my life/besides the kids I've not nothing to show/ wasted my years, a fool of a wife/ I shoulda left your a** long time ago/ I'm not 'gon cry, I'm not 'gon cry, I'm not 'gon shed no tears/No, I'm not 'gon cry it's not the time cause you're not worth my tears." **Blige** tells it like it is, holding nothing back and keeping it real on this soulful ballad.

On the more untempo side of things, there is the funky "Sittin' In My Room", another cut that's tagging alongside of "Not 'Gon Cry" on the R & B charts. Songbird **Brandy** serenades about how being in love can make your life a "mess".

Some of you probably think that because "The Waiting to Exhale" movie is basically about four women getting a good laugh at the expense of men and crying because of the many hardships that they go through due to the male species, the majority of the content on the soundtrack generally deals with male-bashing. Anyone with that mentality should really peep **TLC's** intimate "This Is How It Works," **Faith Evans'** passionate "Kissing You", and **SWV's** sweet and mellow "All Night Long". You will definitely see that this masterpiece collection is not all about the terrible men out there and/or love catastrophes.

One listen to the entire track and you won't have to wait to exhale because the songs are sure to take your breath away. Nuff said!!!

Lyrics taken from the "Waiting To Exhale" CD liner notes.

Listen Up!

HUM You'd Prefer an Astronaut
(RCA Records)

By Sarah Burke
Copy Editor

Admit it, the title intrigues you. If you were holding this CD in your anxious hands at this moment, you would be staring at a zebra on a fetching green background. If you were listening to Hum right now, you would be even more intrigued.

"She thinks she missed the train to Mars. She's out back counting stars." Does this sound familiar? "Stars" has received major air play as of late, so chances are that you have heard of Hum without even knowing it.

Hum is comprised of four gentlemen from Champaign, Illinois: Jeff Dimpsey, Tim Lash, Brian St. Pere, and Matt Talbot. The CD liner notes do not identify who serves which purpose in the band; they simply identify themselves as "Team Hum."

"Stars," the single, is characteristic of the entire 9-track CD with its Pixies-esque, schizophrenic mix of quiet melody and loud, distorted tension. The vocals are soothing and clear, apart from strategically appropriate screams of angst.

The pace of the CD ranges from the agonizing crawl of "The Very Old Man" to faster tunes like "The Pod" and "I'd Like Your Hair Long" which really rock.

As lyrics go, You'd Prefer an Astronaut is unconventionally poetic. Major themes are painful love, suicide, depression, suicide, nature, and of course, suicide. If you're into "we're so happy 24-hours a day" songs, Hum may not be for you.

The lyricist has a way of making simple ideas interesting as he does in "Suicide Machine": "So I give myself away to everybody everyday, and so I give myself to you because you need it more than I do." The singer's monotone in "Songs of Farewell and Departure," (the last track on the CD, surprise, surprise) is striking and kind of ironic: "a love song to everyone I know, arms wide open, here we go."

Probably only three tracks on You'd Prefer An Astronaut are commercial enough to receive a lot of air play. But if you like "Stars," you will surely be charmed by the rest of this CD. Hum deserves your pennies and your attention. Own it.

ANSWERS FROM PAGE 17

N	A	S	H		E	R	O	S	T		A	M	I	D
A	L	I	A		A	O	R	T	A		N	A	R	A
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... Something Different

Apology Accepted

By Andree Denise Higgins
A&E Editor

When I mention the Gin Blossoms to my friends, I get one of two responses. The first, from alternative music fans, is "I respect your right to like them," which is a nice way of saying "I don't like them." I could be wrong, but I think that alternative fans do not like the Gin Blossoms because of their pop appeal. But it is the pop appeal that provokes the second response, "I love their music!" So people either love the Gin Blossoms or completely hate them, there doesn't seem to be a middle ground. I, however, do not love them or hate them. I find their music to be realistic and enjoyable, but not flawless.

When I heard their new single "Follow You Down," I liked it instantly. It has the infectious music and lyrics that are sure to make it a huge crossover hit. However, I couldn't help but wonder if that exact same music would appear in various forms on the rest of their new CD, Congratulations I'm Sorry (A&M Records), as I found to be true with their break through CD New Miserable Experience. When I bought the CD I discovered that they've done it again.

There is one music track on Congratulations I'm Sorry. However, like New Miserable Experience, they sped the track up and slowed it down accordingly, or added a harmonica or bass in various parts to make each song sound different. And they do. You really have to listen closely to pick up on the fact that you are hearing the same music over and over again. The sounds of the album's twelve tracks range from pop to adult contemporary, and rock to country/western. Thank goodness it is a different track than they used on New Miserable Experience.

What makes Congratulations I'm Sorry so likeable is its simplicity. The members of the Gin Blossoms take something as complex as human emotion and simplify it in a way that anyone can relate to what they are singing. The theme of this CD is human error and depression, with lyrics summed up by the name of guitarist Scott Johnson's song publishing company, *You Sound Bitter Music* (ASCAP). Despite the gloomy topics, the songs are not depressing by any means.

Each song shows that everyone makes mistakes and that things will get better. The album's first single, "Follow You Down," is about the deterioration of a relationship ("I know we're headed somewhere/I can see how far we've come/Still I can't remember anything/Let's not do the wrong thing?And I swear it might be fun? It's a long way down/ When all the knots we've tied/Have come undone").

"As Long As It Matters" is a power ballad about reconciliation ("I'll be alright/As long as it matters/As long as you're here with me now").

The pop-flavored "Perfectly Still" talks about making the wrong choices in life ("Nothing like a bad decision/Says who you are").

The rock song "My Car" is a song of reflection ("Thinking back on things I've done/Can't forget the stupid ones/Seems I do my best/By accident").

"Whitewash" is a song about regret ("Wash away my weekend/Shatter my sight/C'mon sweet amnesia/You're needed here tonight").

"Competition Smile," a contender for the Adult Contemporary crowd, talks about hiding your true feelings from the one you love ("I'm hoping you'll notice/That no one else helps me grow/It's not easy to let you know/What I'm dying to show/Dying until you know.../Pretending all the while/Competition smile"). If you have ever made a mistake, and we aren't all perfect, so I'm guessing you have, the Gin Blossoms have written a song about it.

With Congratulations I'm Sorry, the Gin Blossoms have nothing to apologize for. It was questionable as to whether they could match the quality of music that appeared on New Miserable Experience after the death of former writer and band member Doug Hopkins. They have upheld the tradition in a remarkable manner, writing songs that are likeable, and most importantly, human. We are sure to be bombarded by the songs from Congratulations I'm Sorry throughout the year on the pop, rock, and adult contemporary stations.

Lyrics taken from the CD liner notes of Congratulations I'm Sorry.

Bed of Roses

By Charlie Beaupre

The message in "Bed of Roses" is more simple: Send flowers and love will come your way. (Note to florists: Set up flower stalls near your local movie theater!) Mary Stuart Masterson is Lisa, a type- A, workaholic vice-president at a Manhattan investment firm. Christian Slater is Lewis; a former Wall Street trader who chucked it all to follow his dream: He now operates a flower shop.

During a stroll one night, Lewis spies on Lisa through a window; she's just received word that her stepfather has died, and she's crying. Lewis is struck with great empathy for her pain. The next day, he anonymously delivers a large bouquet. Lewis thinks that just by sending flowers, people will fall in love. He loves to deliver flowers because everyone is so happy when they get flowers from loved ones. Maybe it was to make up after a fight or to have someone remember a long lost friend.

Lisa investigates and discovers her secret admirer is Lewis himself. Soon her small apartment has more blooms than an FTD trade show. Lisa and Lewis start dating, and Lisa realizes Lewis is the sort of Prince Charming a damsel can only dream of. However, she's afraid to commit.

This tear-jerker is just as simple as a Hallmark card. Watch this movie and fall in love all over again. Find out if the damsel and the Prince work out their differences in the end.

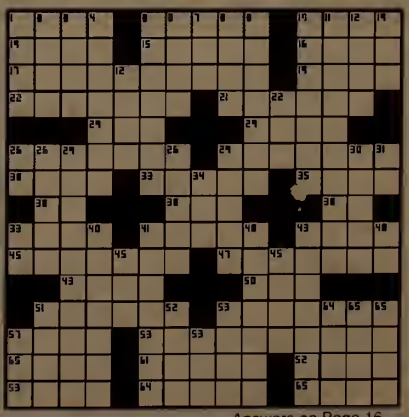
POETICA

ACROSS

1 "Undeniably brash wes young Ogden _____"
5 His was the roed less traveled by
10 Among
14 Et follower
15 Main ertery
16 City neer Osaka
17 Beat movement poet won Pulitzer, 1975 (2 wds.)
19 His elegy is e classic
20 Naps
21 Mercouri and Kazentzakis
23 Dine
24 "And mekes us rather beer those _____ we have," Hamlet said
25 Spanish port
29 Lowers in rank
32 _____ *Poets Society*, Robin Williams film
33 Green veggie
35 River into Caspien Sea
36 Trensp. mode
37 Age
38 Monogram for Pulitzer winner for *Live or Die*, 1967
39 Cabbage Patch Kids, e.g.
41 Young sheep
43 Fishing need (2 wds.)
45 Ceesed
47 "Do not fold, _____, or mutilete"
49 Crezy es e _____
50 Remnent
51 Region of Jordan
53 Polynesians
57 American Poet Laureete, 1993
58 Robert _____, first U.S. Poet Laureate (2 wds.)
60 Help a felon
61 Join
62 Thomes _____ Edison
63 Klee contemporary
64 Pierces
65 Former TV series

DOWN

1 Henpecks
2 Jai _____, fast court game
3 Title
4 Yokel
5 Enthusiest
6 Rogers and Campenelle
7 Fort In Califomia
8 _____oseurus, herbivore
9 Hung eround
10 Poet read her poem et Clinton ineugural
11 U.S. Poet Leureete, 1990-91 (2 wds.)
12 Gershwin, et el.
13 Cecil _____-Lewis, British Poet Leureete, e.k.e. Nicholas Blake
18 "The fault, deer Brutus, is not in our _____s, but in ourselves"
22 "I feel as old es yonder _____," Jemas Joyce
25 After B.C.
26 Dormouse
27 Won Pulltzer for "American Primitve," 1984 (2 wds.)
28 Get _____, succeed
29 Dribs and _____
30 Prop for Picasso
31 See level (abbr.)
34 An ____ end e leg
39 _____ Eliot, "Prufrock" poet (inits.)
40 City in Italy
41 Delewere Indiens
42 Lies awkwerdly
43 Cets or goets
44 Metallic element's symbol
46 "The Raven" poet
48 "____ Cemera" (3 wds.)
51 Desert in Mongolle
52 Fender mishap
53 Pretentious one
54 Woody's son
55 Russian river
56 Easy job
57 Hoover, e.g.
59 Gun lobby (abbr.)



Answers on Page 16

For the Month Starting February 27, 1996

the Westerner WNEC

Sports

To the Sports Editor:

By Sean Weinberg

Within the past month, the sportsworld has twice dealt with the issue of AIDS. The first involved Magic Johnson's return to professional basketball after a two-year absence. A couple of weeks later, heavyweight boxer Tommy Morrison was essentially kicked out of his sport. Despite the fact that both athletes have the same illness, one was allowed to resume his career, while the other will probably be forced into early retirement. This may seem like a double standard, but unfortunately it was the only solution.

I am not saying this because Johnson is a better athlete, or because he's more famous than Morrison. In fact, this opinion has nothing to do with these athletes at all. The issue involves the sports these two men participate in."

There has been a lot learned in recent years about the ways this disease is spread. It is now known that the only danger an athlete would have during an event would be if blood from an infected person was able to enter the blood stream of another.

The sport of basketball has been able to minimize this risk. To begin with, basketball is a sport that involves very little bleeding, so the chances of this disease spreading is already unlikely. However, to further minimize any risk, games at the professional and collegiate levels are stopped when a player is seen bleeding. That player, if he or she has blood on his or her uniform, cannot return to the game until he or she is wearing a new uniform.

On top of this, all players at the professional level are required to take an AIDS test. As a result, those players infected with the disease, if they are still in good health, should be allowed to continue playing basketball.

The same cannot be said for boxers. Boxing is a sport where two opponents try to knock each other out. This process usually involves trying to make the other person bleed. After several punches are thrown during a match, it is almost impossible for both men not to develop open wounds.

This is also a sport where only three states test for AIDS. Since bleeding is part of the game, it makes no sense to stop a match every time one of the boxers starts to bleed. These factors add up to a sport that is the most conducive to spreading this virus.

In no way am I trying to discriminate against athletes infected with HIV or AIDS. Most sports, like basketball, are safe for these men and women to continue participating in. Unfortunately, the sport of boxing is a major exception.

Women's Swim Squad a Soaking Success

WNEC–It takes a lot to achieve success in any sport, but the Western New England College Women's Swim Team has met its success in the 1995-1996 season. The long season started with pre-training the second week of September, and then led them into the water the first Monday in October.

The WNEC Swim Team has only been active for two years, and this has led to a consistency in record breaking. This season alone, the women broke 11 out of 16 school records, always trying to beat their personal bests.

The consistent record breakers of this season were Emily Alland, Patty Luncz, Jennifer Tait, and Samantha Lussier. Team spirits were kept up by co-captains Jennifer Tait and Heather Croughwell.

The last of the women's meets was Saturday, February 3. Again they had broken 5 of their previous records, which helped them win against Salem State and St. Joseph's College. When Coach Mary Anne Gerzanick was asked what she thought about the team, she said, "They were outstanding and showed a lot of effort: they gelled as a team which is what you need to put yourself through the hard, tough time."

The hard effort and dedication will definitely pay off for the women if the athletic director, Eric Geldart, allows Coach Gerzanick take those members who qualify to the New England Championships.

WNEC swim meets are an exciting experience. You can go to the Healthful Living Center and sit in the pool gallery to cheer the women's and men's teams as they compete against opposing colleges' teams and themselves. Coach Gerzanick's words to sum up the season were, "It has been a long season, and to be a second year program they have endured well . . . I am proud of them.

UMASS vs. UCONN: A Local Fued

By Ryan Thomas

An argument between students at WNEC has erupted in the apartments, dorms, and donuts. Who's better? UMass or UConn in division one college basketball? These two national powerhouses have, for the last few years, dominated their opponents but have never stepped upon the same court to end the questions. Many pose the same question: When will UMass and UConn finally play?

Superstars Ray Allen of UConn and Marcus Camby of UMass both gain momentum as they reach for player of the year. The balance and effectiveness of their teammates only enhances their skills. Each player is definitely bound for greatness at the next level, making millions in the NBA.

Two coaches, Jim Calhoun and John Calipari for UConn and UMass respectively, both search for the elusive national championship. They've both had good, if not great, teams in the past, only to end tremendous seasons with disappointing losses. Both coaches realize that this season could be their best chance with the loss of both Allen and Camby a reality. .

What are the arguments? UConn fans point to the undeniable weakness of the Atlantic 10 compared to the strength of the Big East. UMass fans boldly state, "We're 21-0; nobody has beaten us." UMass hasn't lost, but they've come very close while UConn continuously blows teams out.

As a New Yorker I sit back, neutral from the intense arguments. I'd love for the UMass vs. UConn match-up to happen. It would be great for New England and great for the winner's loyal fans. In a recent interview on CBS, John Calipari said that such a game is in the works. The NCAA tournament organizers should realize the popularity that this event would create and help make it a reality.

A Magical Comeback

By Kyle Potter

WNEC–NBA fans across the country should be smiling. Why? Probably because for the second year in a row the league has been rejuvenated with excitement by the return of two of its most talented and popular athletes.

Last season "Air" Jordan jumped back into the hoop scene after a brief stint with a minor league baseball team to prove to the world that he could still score 55 points against the league's best defense. And this season, the NBA has been blessed with the unbelievable return of another gifted athlete, Ervin "Magic" Johnson.

The Magic is back, and he too is showing NBA fans across the country that his no-look passes and "baby" jump-hooks were no flash in the pan. The NBA is excited; the fans are happy, and America is watching this remarkable accomplishment.

Magic has come back to the game under severely difficult conditions. At thirty-six years old, 255 lbs., and four and one half years removed from his last NBA game, critics are wondering how long his body will last. Most importantly, Magic is battling for his life with the HIV virus.

Despite his condition, Magic has insisted that he is back. Although some players and fans may address their concerns about the risks involved, Magic is making it clear that the world is more aware and nothing will get in his way.

So far, so good. In Magic's first game back, he looked as if he had never left. Seeing his ear-to-ear smile while running the fast break brought back vivid memories of the good old days. Only time will tell how much basketball his body can take.

Although his size and shape have turned him into a power forward, Magic can still play the game. What he brings to the basketball court and to the Laker team in general can't be measured. He makes everyone around him better.

Will the Lakers win the title? Probably not. But one thing is certain. Magic has made an incredible comeback, and everyone should appreciate how magical he really is.

Women's Bowling Team Finishes Third

WNEC–The WNEC bowling teams once again went on the road to test some of the competition outside of their conference. This road trip brought them to Schenectady, NY, where they competed in the SCCC Invitational Tournament.

In this tournament both had decent showings: the women's team finished in third place while the men's team finished in sixth place.

The women's team started slowly by pinning an 817 game in the first game. But by the fourth game they showed steady improvement and shot a 1015 game. This score certainly helped their current third place standing. The fourth game was paced by junior Carey Ann Kenyon's 229 game. Freshman Kellianne Cudmore also rolled a 222 game, and sophomore co-captain Anne Marie Gravel also had a 200 game.

The women finished the day having shot a 5403 series for six games of tournament competition. The women were paced by Kellianne Cudmore of Amsterdam, NY, who rolled an 1137 for six games. Carey Ann Kenyon also added a 1118 six game total.

The men's team finished the first day in sixth place. They started off with a 1003 game paced by senior co-captain Sean Kilburn's 237 game. They then struggled the next two games, shooting 911 and 926. Then they started to heat up and shot a 3146 series for the next three games.

This series started with a 1033 game, which was led by senior co-captain Pat Keating's 231 game and freshman Pete Fowler's 217 game. The team then slipped a little to shoot a 1001 the next game. Once again Pete Fowler helped lead the team by shooting a 224, while senior Bob Bottume added a 206 game.

The series was capped off by an astounding 1112 game, one of the highest of the tournament.. Co-captain Sean Kilburn led the charge with a 256 game, and freshman Eric Rinschler shot a strong 254 game. Rich Goetz added a 213 game to help the team score the final total.

The men's team finished the day in sixth place, shooting a 5986 series. This total put them under 300 pins out of third place, very reachable when heading into the team's strongest event the next day.

The teams returned the next day and the women's team improved their second place standing. However, the men's team seemed to fall apart and, although they didn't move from their sixth place standing, they kept losing ground with the rest of the competition.

The women's team finished the team event in first place before the Baker games started. They were led once again by Carey Ann Kenyon who rolled a 596 series with games of 178, 219, and 199. Kellianne Cudmore added a 564 series and a high game of 202.

The high game of that set was a 994 middle game. This game was paced by Kenyon's 219 game. Senior co-captain Carey Monkowski added a 211 game, and freshman Jamie Barras added a 201 game.

Then the women's team entered the Baker game format and proceeded to struggle by shooting games of 134, 167, and 148. These scores dropped them from the top spot to third place. But they still qualified for match play and faced Columbia Green University. They lost the two game Baker format with a heart breaking 385-378 final score.

While the women's team continued their success, the men's team struggled to keep their heads above water. The team shot games of 981, 928, and 961 for a 2870 series.

The team was led by Pat Keating, who shot a 616 series, including a 254 game. Sean Kilburn helped to support the team shooting a 575 series.

The women's team had a few individual accomplishments. Kellianne Cudmore won singles with a 597 series. Plus, Carey Ann Kenyon of Chelmsford, MA, finished third in all-events with a nine game total of 1715, which figures out to a 190 average.

The WNEC men's team finished behind Schenectady County CC, Hudson Valley CC, Mohawk Valley CC, Niagara CC, Rochester Institute of Technology.

Both teams continue to howl well and deserve to get more recognition on the WNEC campus than they are currently given. If you have time, please come out and support the team.

We're taking bets that . . .

By Gregory S. Madrid

*there is a good chance that I could piss off everyone on this campus in this issue.
*you got confused when this article wasn't on the back page.
*your favorite Muppets episode is the one with Star Wars.
*the Big Chill '96 was a great week of events. Jenn and Kara you did a great job.
*if you are looking for a good movie to rent you should get The Usual Suspects.
*if you went to the Club med Party you would not have recognized Dining Room A.
*you should not forget that February 29th is National Overalls Day.
*you're getting old if you remember a convenient grocery store across from the college.
*even though the Bruins whipped the Whalers butt on Valentine's Day Bruins fans are still scared of the Whalers.
*a hat doesn't make a bald head go away.
*the Harlem Wizards were damn funny.
*the Freshman Council did a pretty good job at bringing the Harlem Wizards here.
*some intramural players think they are part of the Harlem Wizards.
*the UMASS Minutemen will not win the National Championship ever.
*you can't believe that we went back in time (1005 to be exact) to play intramural football.
*it may sound funny, but I know someone with their hands up their ass.
*it's about time the Red Sox signed Mo Vaughn.
*you can't wait for spring.
*I am tired of the apathy (look it up if you don't know this word) on this campus. People should try going to events and stop complaining that there is nothing to do here.
*it is a big shock that Tommy Morrison has HIV.
*Life in General was a great college band.
*Arizona has an angel looking over them after their 65 ft. buzzer beater against Cincinnati.
*some of you living in Gateway got quite a scare when a car almost came crashing through your rooms.
*it's good that MAGIC is back in the NBA.*you're getting old if you remember hearing Sean & Jamie play at Mory's.
*you don't know where this line is from . . . "You're mother's an astronaut."
*there is a mailworm that steals all of your mail.
*a troll lives in the enormous pothole on Breckwood Circle in Gateway.
*you should pick up a Springfield Advocate every week just to read "Ask Isadora."
*Cotton Candy and sno-cones should be served daily in the Dining Hall.
*Bob Dole will not win the Republican nomination (and if he does Bill Clinton will kill him in November.)
*you never realized that there is a nutritional information pamphlet board next to the ice cream freezer in food service. (J.P.)
*if you saw the Real World Reunion on MTV you realize Puck is still an AS&^OLE.
*the elevator is the most commonly used form of transportation.
*college is for education purposes only.
*it sucks that there is no longer a free dryer in Gateway.
*Snoop Dogg is probably going to get some time in the pound.
*you're getting old if you remember when the Celtics were good.
*you can't believe it but the WNEC cheerleaders are actually really good this year.
*it was great to see Kramer get the cable guy back in Seinfeld.
*the weekly Sundae Bar sucks when the soft serve machine is broken.
*if you hated any of the Cosby Kids Tempest Bledsoe was number one on your list and you can't believe she has a talk show.
*if you've seen a preview for the movie ID4 it reminds of the Terminator movies.
*it's going to be an interesting Student Senate election this year.
*your bowel movements have never been the same since Taco Bell.
*you are so excited that the Dukes of Hazzard is now on The Nashville Network.
*you wish you could have a path shoveled to your door.
*if I met Tupac Shakur I would ask him "Two Pack of what?"
*Wayne Gretzky is going to look good in any other uniform than the Kings.
*if Keith Richards was cremated his street value would be more than the national debt.
*the WNEC men's basketball winning streak was a gift from God.
*the pretzel bar was a great idea for dinner.
*Shaw should have won the All-Star MVP.
*you hate it when you have all black cards in solitaire.*David Letterman is going to make a huge comeback in the late night war.
*the speed bump near the Law School is the worst one on campus.
*surprisingly enough the most popular name used in the world is Mohammed.
*it takes a really special person to lose their coat with everything in it.
*it amazes a lot of people that some students play Magic every night till midnight.
*most of you don't even know what Magic is.
*George Wallace was the funniest part of the ESPY's.
*you were really looking forward to skating on WNEC's new ice rink. OOPS.
*J.R. Lendors "Rap's Bad Rap" article was a great and some people need to get a grip.
*WNEC baseball should have a really good year considering all of their returning players.
*you kind of wonder how much Music and Dancing actually goes on in the Music and Dance room in the Campus Center.
*the WNEC softball team is probably going somewhere great on Spring Break again.
*if you put ice skating on television you'll get at least a million viewers and no one knows why.
*free haircuts were key at the Health Fair.
*you can't wait for the Atlanta Olympics.
*more people should say they are going to take a "bowel movement" when they have to poop.
*David Stern is worth the $4 million a year he is getting.
*you're afraid to "Ask Bob."
*you want to know "Who's Bob?"
*the Bruins should fire Steve Kasper before they miss the playoffs.
*it's not good if you have the brain of a F&@*ing Gnat.
*some games are just meant to end in ties.
*you haven't finger painted in a really long time (T.T.)
*there are going to be a lot of great editorials this issue.
*Peer Advisors are doing a great job following their advisees for the full year.
*you should go to a Falcons game.
*Quiet Riot should try and make a comeback because the 80's really rocked.
*you will never go wrong having a Psychic Fair on this campus.
*if you try it you just might like it. (insert anything for it)
*the 96 Days party was great because there was enough beer.*it is scary for seniors that there is less than 96 days left in their WNEC college career. (they hope)
*this used to be a sports article.
*shouts out to Rich Nice for no reason, but the fact that it's fun.

League Standings 2-14-96
Men's Conference

Western New England	299
WPI	239.5
UMass/Lowell	202
Bentley	126
USMA, West Point	107
Coast Guard Academy	43

Western New England

Bob Bottums	39	7467	191	31
Pete Fowler	41	8058	196	33
Rich Goetz	42	8311	197	31
Pat Keating	41	7448	181	26
Sean Kilburn	39	7430	190	25.5
Eric Sciulla	15	2665	177	12
Brian Stromwall	10	1757	175	7
Beau Highfill	10	1772	177	7.5
Chris Norton	9	1593	177	7
Eric Rinschler	6	1153	192	6
	252	47654	189	

High Doubles

1373	Pete Fowler - Sean Kilburn, WNEC	WNEC
1256	Pete Fowler - Sean Kilburn, WNEC	WPI
1254	Rich Goetz - Pat Keating, WNEC	WPI
1230	Rob King - Chris Gauvin, WPI	WNEC
1223	Bob Bottume - Eric Sciulla, WNEC	WNEC
1220	Rich Goetz - Pat Keating, WNEC	WNEC
1209	Matt Thomas - Jay Heelon, Lowell	USMA
1202	Sung Chon - Jeff Breloski, USMA	Lowell
1200	Paul Slanish - Jay Josefowitch, Bentley	WPI
1990	Bob Parette - Matt Burdick, WPI	WNEC
1189	Steve Morehouse - Paul Slanish, Bentley	WNEC
1182	Jeff Breloski - Sung Chon, USMA	WPI
1176	Bob Bottume - Sean Kilburn, WNEC	WNEC
1164	Matt Burdick - Yu-Ping Toh, WPI	WPI
1162	Matt Thomas - Bob Bevis, Lowell	Lowell
1161	Pete Fowler - Rich Goetz, WNEC1159	USMA
1159	Chris Norton - Sean Kilburn, WNEC	WNEC
1157	Rich Goetz - Sean Kilburn, WNEC	WNEC
1150	Matt Burdick - Yu Ping Toh, WPI	WPI
1148	Rob King - Chris Gauvin, WPI	Lowell
1121	Mike Michaud - Bill Roberts, WP	USMA

Team Hi Series

3149	WPI
3110	WPI
3096	WNEC
2916	WNEC
2900	WPI
2864	WPI
2850	WNEC
2840	WNEC
2743	WNEC
2708	WNEC
2703	WPI
2697	Lowell
2674	WNEC
2664	USMA
2654	WNEC
2646	WPI
2703	WPI
2674	WNEC
2664	WNEC
2654	Lowell
2646	WNEC

Team Hi Game

1105	WPI
1069	WPI
1058	WNEC
1055	WNEC
1053	WPI
1039	WPI
1036	WNEC
1033	WNEC
1020	WNEC
1016	WNEC
1004	WPI
986	Lowell
984	WNEC
980	USMA
978	WNEC
975	WPI
975	WPI
968	WNEC
964	WNEC
963	Lowell
962	WNEC

Invid. High Series

760	Pete Fowler, WNEC
735	Sean Kilburn, WNEC
717	Jeff Breloski, USMA
695	Pete Fowler, WNEC
694	Yu-Ping Toh, WPI
693	Rich Goetz, WNEC
680	Matt Burdick, WPI
674	Rich Goetz, WNEC
670	Rich Goetz, WNEC
657	Chris Gauvin, WPI
649	Pete Fowler, WNEC
645	Jeff Breloski, USMA
645	Sung Chon, USMA
644	Rob King, WPI
642	Pat Keating, WNEC
640	Bob Bottume, WNEC
635	Bob Bevis, Lowell
635	Mike Walsh, Coast Guard
634	Matt Burdick, WPI
632	Mike Dunn, Lowell
631	Rich Goetz, WNEC
629	Bob Parette, WPI
627	Steve Morehouse, Bentley
626	Matt Burc\dick, WPI
622	Jay Josefowich, Bentley
621	Bob Bottums, WNEC
620	Bob Bevis, Lowell
620	Matt Burdick, WPI
618	Rob King, WPI
614	Rob King, WPI
613	Sean Kilburn, WNEC
613	Jay Heelon, Lowell
612	Pat Keating, WNEC
612	Chris Gauvin, WPI
610	Rich Goetz, WNEC

Individual High Game

278	Rich Goetz, WNEC
278	Pete Fowler, WNEC

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LEAGUE STANDINGS
From Page 19

278	Rob Kingk, WPIU
268	Rich Goetz, WNEC
266	Yu-Ping Toh, WPI
257	Sean Kilburn, WNEC
257	Pete Fowler, WNEC
255	Sean Kilburn, WNEC
255	Paul Stanish, Bentley
253	Pete Fowler, WNEC
252	Jeff Breloski, USMA
248	Bob Bottume, WNEC
247	Pete Fowler, WNEC
247	Matt Burdick, WPI
247	Matt Thomas, Lowell
246	Bob Bevis, Lowell
246	Sung Chon, USMA
246	Jeff Breloski, USMA
246	Matt Thomas, Lowell
246	Rob King, WPI
245	Rich Goetz, WNEC
243	Rich Goetz, WNEC
243	Jay Heelon, Lowell
242	Matt Burdick, WPI
241	Matt Burdick, WPI
240	Chris Gauvin, WPI
238	Pete Fowler, WNEC
236	Eric Rinschler, WNEC
235	Pete Fowler, WNEC
235	Bill Roberts, WPI
235	pat Keating, WNEC
235	Jeff Breloski, USMA
234-2	Pete Fowler, WNEC
234	Jeff Breloski, USMA
234	Pat Keating, WNEC

League Standings 2-14-96
Women's Conference

Western New England	229
UMass/Lowell	153
WPI	75.5
Coast Guard Academy	43

Western New England

Jamie Barras	40	6580	164	32
Kellianne Cudmore	34	5825	171	24.5
Driskell Farquharson	7	1098	156	7
Anne-Marie Gravel	41	6806	166	30.5
Carey Kenyon	39	6969	178	30
Carey Monkowski	35	5359	153	25
Rita Zurlo	12	1563	130	4
	208	34210	164	

Team Hi Game

1097	WNEC
961	WNEC
937	WNEC
880	WNEC
850	WNEC
846	WNEC
838	WNEC
832	WNEC
827	WNEC
818	WNEC
804	WNEC
802	WNEC
800-2	WNEC
798	WNEC
790-2	WNEC
783	Lowell
779	Lowell
774	Lowell
773	Lowqell
770	Lowell
768	WNEC
764	WNEC
763	WNEC
746	Lowell
741	Lowell
740	Lowell
737	Lowell

Hi Doubles Game

461	Cudmore - Kenyon, WNEC
436	Cudmore - Kenyon, WNEC
416	Kenyon - Gravel, WNEC
412	Kenyon - Gravel, WNEC
398	Cudmore - Kenyon, WNEC
387	Kenyon - Gravel, WNEC
384	Kenyon - Gravel, WNEC
380	Monkowski - Barras, WNEC
387	Kenyon - Gravel, WNEC
370	Tarbox-Powers, Lowell
368	Lamond - Ceasar, Lowell
361	Laurin - Mailhot, WPI
358	Cudmore - Kenyon, WNEC
358	Kenyon - Gravel, WNEC
350	Monkowski - Barras, WNEC
349	Mailhot - Capek, WPI
348	Portrie - Mailhot, WPI
342	Ceasar - Lamond, Lowell
342	Laurin - Mailhot, WPI
340	Wilson - Black, Coast Guard
339	Laurin - Mailhot, WPI
338	Monkowski - Barras, WNEC
336	Concannon - Mailhot, WPI
331	Lamond - Ceasar, Lowell
331-2	Kenyon - Gravel, WNEC
329	Mailhot - Capek, WPI
328	Monkowski - Barras, WNEC

Individual Hi Game

279	Carey Kenyon, WNEC
266	Carey Kenyon, WNEC
242	Kim Mailhot, WPI
241	Carla Ceasar, Lowell
237	Carla Ceasar, Lowell
236	Kim Mailhot, WPI
234	Carey Kenyon, WNEC
234	Anne-Marie Gravel, WNEC
227	Carla Ceasar, Lowell
226	Kim Mailhot, WPI
226	Carey Monkowski, WNEC
226	Kellianne Cudmore, WNEC
225	Kellianne Cudmore, WNEC
224	Kellianne Cudmore, WNEC
223	Carla Ceasar, Lowell
221	Carey Kenyon, WNEC
220	Kellianne Cudmore, WNEC
217	Kim Mailhot, WPI
217	Anne-Marie Gravel, WNEC
216	Carey Kenyon, WNEC
215	Anne-Marie Gravel, WNEC
215	Kellianne Cudmore, WNEC
215	Carey Kenyon, WNEC
214	Kellianne Cudmore, WNEC
213	Carey Kenyon, WNEC
212	Darlene Wilson, Coast Guard
210	Heidi Powers, Lowell

Three Professors Granted Tenure at Western New England College

SPRINGFIELD, MA - Western New England College has announced that three professors in the School of Arts and Sciences have been awarded tenure. They are as follows:

Theodore Johnson-South, assistant professor of history, of Belchertown, MA. Dr. Johnson-South received his B.A. from Colorado University, his M.A. from the University of Durham, England and a M.A. and his Ph.D. from Cornell University.

Ann Kizanis, assistant professor of mathematics, of Springfield. Dr. Kizanis received her B.A. from Connecticut College and her Ph.D. from Wesleyan University.

Donald C. Williams, assistant professor of government, of Wilbraham, MA. Dr. Williams received his B.A. from Miami University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Florida-Gainesville.

Western New England College is a private coeducational institution located on a 131-acre suburban campus in Springfield, MA, with an additional 16 sites throughout the Commonwealth. The College serves full-time and part-time students with undergraduate programs in its Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering, and graduate programs in its Schools of Business, Engineering, and Law.

Western New England College Student Receives National Honor

SPRINGFIELD, MA - Curtis L. Weeks, a senior major in chemistry at Western New England College, has been chosen by the U.S. Air Force Institute of Technology to receive a fully-funded scholarship for a master's degree in chemistry. Weeks, an Air Force ROTC student, is one of two ROTC student nationally to receive this scholarship. Weeks is the son of Francis L. Weeks of Oneonta, NY.

In the past, Weeks said, only students at the Air Force Academy were eligible for this scholarship. This year ROTC students were considered as well. Weeks is in the process of applying to several graduate programs. Upon receiving his master's, he will receive his commission and teach chemistry at the Air Force Academy.

Western New England College is a private coeducational institution located on a 131-acre suburban campus in Springfield, MA, with an additional 16 sites throughout the Commonwealth. The College serves full-time and part-time students with undergraduate programs in its Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering, and graduate programs in its Schools of Business, Engineering, and Law.

The First Annual Fred Brown Executive Lecture Series

By Prof. Henry J. Bazan

The First Annual Fred Brown Executive Lecture Series sponsored by the Management Association on January 30, 1996, was a huge success with approximately one hundred students and faculty members of the School of Business in attendance. Vice President of the Management Association, Michael Jellson, introduced Fred Brown for whom the Lecture Series bears his name. Fred Brown was the first full time day faculty member hired in the School of Business and served as chairperson of the Management Department and later Dean of Continuing Education. He retired after thirty-one years of service to the institution, in January of 1995.

The main speaker was John J. Pajak, Executive Vice President of Operations at Mass Mutual and also in alumnus of our college and trustee emeritus. He started his presentation by talking about the Financial Services Sector and the forces driving change. He then went into the Industry today and Outlook for tomorrow laying the foundation for merger between Mass Mutual and Connecticut Mutual. This combined merger when completed will have assets of $48.5 billion and combined earnings of $26.2 million. Mass Mutual will grow overall to be a 100 billion dollar company and be ranked somewhere in the top 100 of Fortune's top 500 manufacturing and service companies in the United States.

During his two hour presentation he discussed the investigation, planning and integration of the two companies. He indicated that the merger planning started with a project structure of eight people and as progress developed this was developed into a comprehensive integrative management team. Overall the merger was controlled through a master work plan.

A final analysis was made on looking at the merger in outlining things that were done particularly well and things that could have been done better. Numerous questions were asked by faculty and students and Mr. Pajak attempted to give an honest and direct answers to all their questions.

This was a great experience for students to apply concepts learned in Policies and Strategy, Organizational Theory, Human Resources, and Leadership. It provided the Freshman in attendance an opportunity to recognize the importance of their future education in Management.

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October 1996

the Westerner

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On The Air With Dr. Caprio

by Andrea Denise Higgins

WNEC—On Tuesday, September 17, from 6:30-8 p.m., during a live call-in show on WNEK-FM, students had the opportunity to voice their opinions about the college, talk about what changes they would like to see in the future, and express concerns about current campus matters to Dr. Anthony Caprio, the new President of Western New England College.

"I have this profound hope that this institution can really be a place that is very positive for our students and anybody who works for the institution," Caprio said as he fielded questions that ranged from the future of the college's academic programs and growth, to the relationship of the students with the administration.

As WNEK moderator Nick Wolkowicz stated, even in the short amount of time Caprio has been president, he has proven to be a "complete 180 [degree turn] from the past president." Caprio is interested in hearing the voice of the students and building an open communicative relationship with them.

Taking time from his busy schedule to communicate with the students on a personal level is a step in the right direction. Since September 1, Caprio has been busy meeting with alumni, trustees, faculty, and various student leaders.

Not only did Caprio answer questions and give his own input on campus issues, he seemed enthusiastic about hearing the students opinion. "This is your institution. We have a responsibility to make sure your degree is valuable," he said as he described how everyone, from students to administration, are vital in the success of the college.

It was obvious throughout the forum that Caprio felt the student's involvement with the campus community, and their happiness with the overall manner in which the college meets their needs, is of paramount importance to him. He encouraged students to voice their needs to faculty and administration. For example, he suggested that a caller, who has problems with the unfriendliness of the staff members at the Student Administrative Offices, address the situation directly and explain to them how she feels when she is in the office trying to talk to them.

Communication is of the utmost importance to Caprio. He believes that the important job of the president is to listen to opinions expressed and achieve a collective goal. "My job is not just to listen individually, but to listen and then be able to try and figure out the way to do some of the things that I sense are important to many people." Caprio believes that the college already has a "solid foundation," but needs "a little fine tuning."

Caprio briefly explained some of the plans that he has to expand what is already a "strong institution." Among those plans are to meet with the students on a regular basis and allowing members of Student Senate to participate in staff meetings. By keeping in touch with the students, he feels that the college can better meet

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photo by Dr. Dane Canon

Dr. Anthony Caprio

Campus "Stirred, but not Shaken" Over Assault

by Chris Henyan

WNEC—On Wednesday night, September 11, a WNEC male commuter student was seriously assaulted and robbed at gun point by two unknown men in the Gateway Apartment Village. Despite the shocking severity of the attack, both students and Public Safety alike are taking a calm and realistic approach towards reacting to the incident.

Although neither of the men responsible have yet been arrested, there does not seem to be any widespread panic on the part of residents in Gateway, or the men in blue. Public Safety Police Chief Gary Barnes described the assault as a "random thing." Barnes believes that such events, although unfortunate, are not always unavoidable. "There is only so much one can do to prevent it," explained Barnes.

The student assaulted (whose name will be withheld for privacy reasons) could do little to escape the situation, which was unprovoked on his part.

Reportedly, he was waiting for the bus on the sidewalk of Wilbraham Road when the two men confronted him, and chased him down into the Gateway complex. After attempting to get help by banging on doors, he was caught, beaten, and robbed by the men.

Soon after, one Gateway resident called Public Safety, while another attended to the injured student before WNEC and Springfield Police arrived. The student was taken to a local hospital, treated, and later released, according to Public Safety Officials.

Chief Barnes' advice for students to help avoid such future attacks is to " be more aware of their surroundings." He stressed that the "bottom-line" is to be "aware without being afraid. A lot of it is just common sense."

Many eyewitnesses have their stories to tell of the exciting night, but the anxiety felt has seemingly

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featuring all WNEC teams
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"We're Taking Bets That..."
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The Roadhouse: Gone But Not Forgotten

by Chris Henyan

It kind of reminds me of my cat, who recently passed on. He hated everyone and lived to be 20 (140 in feline years). But once he was gone, somehow he was missed. He was never really friendly, only occasionally tolerable, but his absence has left a bole in my life (albeit small). Kind of like the famous (or infamous) "Roadhouse" bar that was once synonymous with WNEC student night life. Nobody liked it, but almost everybody went, and nobody knew why. And now that its gone, a piece of school history is sadly gone with it.

Some of you may remember my "I Hate the Roadhouse" editorial in "the Westemer" last year around this time, and some of you probably have no idea why you've read so far into this article.

But for those of us WNEC students who can remember the old "Roadhouse" (that died under the alias "Sensations") know that it was to the student body what my cat was to me. I (we) loved to hate it, but still have trouble living without it. One day it was there, and we were poking fun at it, and now its gone and we never had a chance to say "good-bye" (part of that for me may be because the bouncers were looking for me at the door after my "Hate" article was printed).

There is an emptiness in this Golden Bear, and in others of the species, and it may be time to reflect, and let the hurt come out. That way we as a community can grieve, recover, and hopefully then find a way to go on with our (night)lives.

Party nights at WNEC almost always culminated in the same way—piling into the car and rumbling down Boston Road to the Roadhouse for late night excitement. Nobody ever seemed to have much fun, in fact many people called the bar the "(expletive)-House." But it had the beer, the high-tech license reading devices, and the bearts of WNEC faithful.

To help ease the pain of their loss, some students decided to open their souls to speak candidly about their fondest, or most vivid memories of the Roadhouse.

Mike Mertzic, (3rd Year G-Bear) shared one of his warmest memories when explaining one night in particular....."When those two sluts were with the manager all night, and when the best body contest started they were competing with the other girls and they flashed us, and they still lost."

When first posed with the question of what he thought of first when remembering the Roadhouse, Mertzic countered: "Besides a rip-off?"

Some remember the people, some the smoke, and some the fights....."Somehow there was always a fight and I never saw it," lamented senior Ian McEachem. "Maybe its because I'm short."

Pete Tseperkas, a junior, remembers the bar for building a "impacting" relationship: "Its where I met 'Mr. Jagermeister' and he kicked my ass." Continuing along the violence line, Tseperkas added, "I've seen the Ultimate Fighting Championship there a couple times also."

Obviously, many people went to the Roadhouse to find the opposite sex. Universally known as a "meat-market," many ventured to the Roadhouse in hopes of finding "that special someone." But the majority went home empty-handed week after week, according to junior Jeff Robinson: "Its where all the guys thought they could 'hook-up' and never did."

One of senior Brian Milliken's most treasured memories is of his confident friend, 'Benny Hill,' using his killer pick-up line: "I'm the Mack-Daddy, she'll come back."

On the other hand, some students could never stop thinking about their stomachs, more specifically, the sub-shop right across the street. "When I went (to the Roadhouse), all I thought about was when I was going to Blimpee's," senior Keith Wichman commented.

Many Golden Bears unfortunately remember more disgusting aspects of the bar. "I think about people puking all over the place," said the aforementioned Milliken.

"Don't forget to flush the sink," laughed senior Matt Norman, upon jogging his Roadhouse memories.

Junior Pam Mertzic painfully recalled the "Thirty-minute wait" in line for the bathroom, and also spoke emotionally about the crowded atmosphere: "I hated how you could not move—you could not move!"

The fact is, we all have our memories, whether humorous or painful. And one thing will always ring true: the past stories of WNEC night life will forever coincide in the history books with the Roadhouse. Rumors abound about the return of the Roadhouse, and it would be fitting wouldn't it? There is a whole crop of freshman who have never bad the chance to go to WNEC's version of "Cheers." And instead of "everyone knowing your name," you'll be in the place where "everybody's 21."

But for now, the Roadhouse remains a silent relic to the past, whose cold walls and dusty floors tell the tales of a thousand party nights. The scent of stale beer and cigarette smoke still hangs heavily in the air, and the cash register sits empty and awaiting. The fake I.D. photo-machine sits as useless as it ever was, and the neon-light tubing that circles the bar, long to be lit. If we think real hard maybe we can remember the pounding music, and the line for the bathroom.....(dreaming)....." Oh man, did you see that guy spill beer on that muscle-head's girlfriend?..... he looks pissed!..... look at that dorky chick dancing while waiting for the restroom.....I can't breath.....why are we here anyway.....?"

The memories are tough to let go of. Good-bye fair Roadhouse. We miss you, and we will not (cannot) forget.

October 1996

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	Aerobics Classes as Scheduled	1 Yoga - HLC 4:45 p.m. Movie - 'Hoop Dreams'	2 CAB - Comedy Dln. Rm. A - 8:00 p.m. Bi-Athalon 3:00 p.m Field Hockey - 4:00 p.m.	3 Freshman Focus - William Gates creator of the movie "Hoop Dreams"	4 **Homecoming** Fridays -	5 Women's Soccer - 2 00 p m Field Hockey - 4 00 p m Football - 1 30 p m Men's Soccer - 11 00 a m
6 CSS out of Class Act.	7 CAB Movie Series "Birdcage" 8:30 p.m. - Sleith 100	8 **Senior Yearbook Pics. 9 - 3** Yoga - 4:45 p.m. Field Hockey - 3:30 p.m.	9 Women's Weight Training 4:15 - 5:00 Wellness Ctr. Men's Soccer - 4:00 p.m.	10 Women's Volleyball 7.00 p.m.	11 Fridays -	12 "Escapes" Football - 1:00 p.m. Men's Soccer - 1:00 p.m. Women's Volleyball - 12:00 p.m.
13	14 Columbus Day	15 Yoga 4:45 p.m. Field Hockey - 3:30 p.m.	16 Women's Weight Training 4:45 p.m.	17	18 **Hampden & Franklin Wknd** Fridays -	19 Women's Soccer 2:00 p.m Football - 1 00 p m Men's Soccer - 11 00 p m.
20 Open House Rock-a-thon	21 CPR Certification Time TBA CAB - Mosaic Monday	22 **Sr. Class Boo Bag Sale** Yoga 4:45 p.m. Men's Soccer - 4 00 p m. Women's Volleyball 7:00 p m.	23 Women's Weight Training 4:15 p.m.	24 Women's Soccer 3:30 p m. Women's Volleyball 6.00 p.m.	25 **Windham Wknd** Fridays -	26
27 Women's Soccer 1:00 p.m.	28	29 **Freak Week** Emerging Leader Women's Soccer 2:00 p m.	30	31 CAB Movie "Seven" 8.30 Sleith 100 Emerging Leader Sr Class "197" Countdown		

Happy Campers Or Not

by Tiffany Selivonchik

WNEC - On September 17, freshmen at Western New England College spoke out on the likes and dislikes of their college experience.

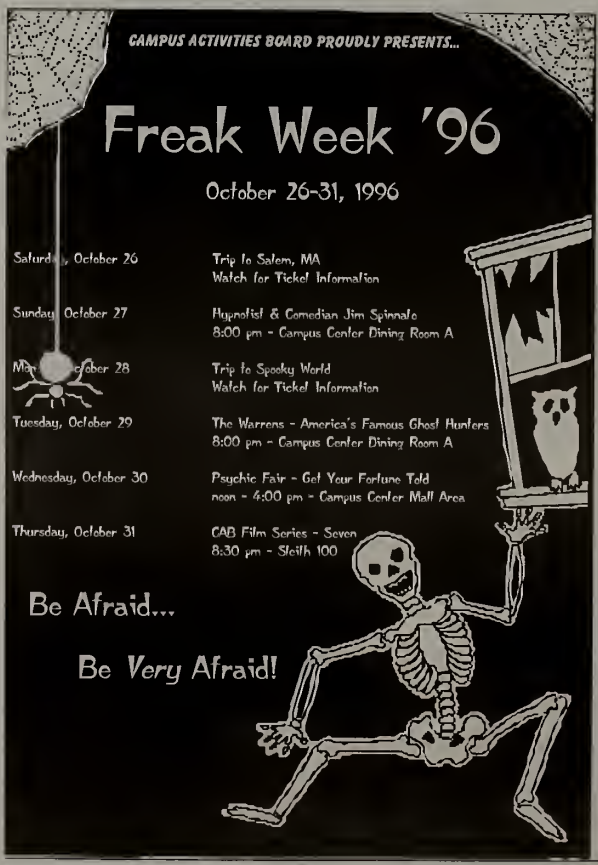
The mugging that happened in Gateway apartments on September 11 leaves new students feeling a little unsafe. A male student living in Windham is concerned that public safety's priorities are not in order. "I'm worried that public safety is more concerned about harassing than they are about the students' safety," he said.

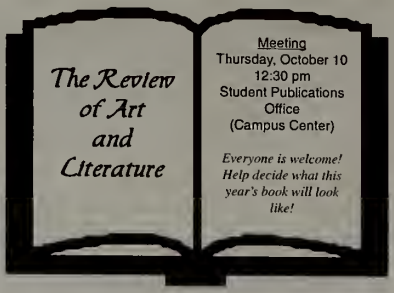
WNEC does get two thumbs up from new students for the freshman activities that welcomed them into their new surroundings. The general feeling from freshmen is that college life has been treating them well. They feel welcome and agree that WNEC has a "friendly environment."

Some freshmen girls do not have good reputations among freshmen guys. "It's time to get some substance in your heads," said one male. Four males at Windham said that they feel the women are hard to talk to and are unapproachable. Some of the males are said to be just as bad. "They are on a different wave length," said one female. Many of the women feel that the men are interested only in meeting a girlfriend, and the girls are interested in meeting "life long friends," said two females.

Freshman social life is said to be promising for the new students. "I never have a problem finding something to do on the weekend," said one freshman student living at Windham. They are happy, content, and plan on staying here until it is time to graduate.

No surprise to upper classmen, all the freshmen interviewed hate the food that is served. "Variety, yes, but it just keeps getting worse and worse," said one female. The students feel that if WNEC wants to make students happy they need to put some concentration on nutrition.





Student Activities Expo Rocks!

by Brian Milliken

WNEC—On Thursday, September 12, Western New England College filed towards the Alumni Healthful Living Center for the Student Activities Expo.

The expo gave all the students a chance to see and sign up for clubs and organizations, while getting lots of "free stuff."

"Just for attending, students had a chance to win a CD player, desk lamp, floor lamp, and various other neat prizes," commented a freshman student who is planning on being heavily involved in the organizations on campus.

"There were all kinds of cool and neat things given out," said Sharon Masson and Melissa Nicolaichuk, "like straws, cups, magnets, CD's, stress toys, pens, notepads, and many other items."

The set-up of the fair was really good. Everybody interviewed commented on how organized the fair was. Their was only one negative comment and that was about the entrance and exit being too crowded.

Craig Cameron brought up a valiant point when he said, "going to a small school like Western New England College is a lot different then going to a large school because you find yourself more involved in the community and the community effort. The sense of community is only built through the organizations on campus, and without these organizations, a lot more students wouldn't feel a sense of community and belonging. No student has an excuse to be alone or lonely with all that is available for them to get involved in here on campus."

The activities fair was a huge success and congratulations are in order for all parties who were involved and responsible for this fantastic event.

the Westerner

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Senate

Welcome Back to WNEC

by Geoffrey Stowell, President Student Senate

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the student body and faculty back. I would also like to welcome our new President, Dr. Anthony Caprio to WNEC. I hope that things are going well so far for everyone and that you are all settling back into life on campus.

Approximately one month ago in my address to the freshman class, I tasked the student body as well as Dr. Caprio with taking the reigns of the school and leading WNEC forward into the 21st century and into a new era of heightened success. I also explained to them that the best way to do this is to get involved and become leaders on campus. This is an opportune time to make a difference because we have a new president who is interested in hearing our opinions and using our insight as students to make the important decisions that will shape WNEC's success. I am extremely impressed with the response I have seen from the students and especially the freshman over the past month. They have truly taken the reigns as I asked them to and we are already seeing great new ideas coming to the forefront. You could see their enthusiasm from the start during first week and it has not died out yet! I have already seen levels of involvement that I have not seen previously in my two years at WNEC. This year's Student Senate will be the largest yet with only two seats remaining empty. We have already seen great involvement in Freshman Council with over twenty students participating and showing very promising levels of enthusiasm and creativity. As I have said many times before, your time at WNEC can be whatever you make of it and I am glad to see that you are all taking advantage of that and making it a positive experience.

Our new President cannot be forgotten either. Dr. Caprio has also already done amazing things since he arrived here only a month ago. The Student Senate was truly excited about the arrival of Dr. Caprio and we have not been disappointed. We believe that WNEC really hit a stroke of luck when it found Dr. Caprio. Never before has the president of WNEC taken such a keen interest in meeting the students and hearing what they have to say about WNEC good or bad. Eric and I have meet on several occasions with Dr. Caprio and his first and foremost concern always seems to be the students' problems. Shortly after the recent assault in Gateway, Dr. Caprio met with Dr. Oberg the Vice - president for Planning and Finance, Thomas Wozniak the Director of Residence Life, Eric Patnode and I, and a group of students to do a safety walk at night through Gateway. During the walk-through we showed Dr. Caprio several safety concerns of the students. Dr. Caprio showed genuine concern and made a firm commitment to do everything he could to make gateway safe for the students of WNEC.

As you can see the new school year at WNEC is getting off to a great start. Everyone is getting involved and working together to improve WNEC and keep it moving forward. I would encourage everyone to keep up the enthusiasm and stay involved! GOOD LUCK THIS YEAR FROM THE STUDENT SENATE, and remember if you need anything come to us we are here for you, we are the voice of the students.

Sincerely,

Geoffrey W. Stowell
President
Student Senate

Student Senate 1996-97

President: Geoffrey Stowell
Vice President: Eric Patnode
Secretary: Nara Mitchell
Treasurer: John Abbey (Finance)

Student Senate Advisor: Maureen Keizer

School of Arts & Science Reps: Paul Coronite, Nicole DeFrancessco, Thea Martin (Legislative)

School of Business Representatives: Vittorio Contabile, Carrian Morgiewicz, Elia Pizarro

School of Engineering Representative: Sherburn Ramsay

Pre-Pharmacy Representative: Duane Rogers

Senator-at-Large: Keith Marciniak (Grievance)

Commuter Representatives: Craig Camerlin, Christopher Service

Resident Representatives: Shane Cote, Anne Marie Hannon, Ian Martin (CAB), John Thurley

Senior Representatives: Dave Guilmette, Todd Perkoski

Junior Representatives: Cara Kopcinski

Sophomore Representatives: Melissa Marcella, Kristin Knight

Senior Class Officers:
President: Rich Murphy
Vice-President: Traci Terenzini
Secretary: Kendal Timmers
Treasurer: James Nizzardo

Sophomore Class Officers:
President: Sean Boucher
Vice-President: Tina Cirringione
Secretary: Elizabeth Godek
Treasurer: Jason Ferri

Junior Class Officers:
President: Celia Viegas (Publicity)
Vice-President: Tony Pivero
Secretary: Sara Grunin
Treasurer: Michael Doolan

Safety...A Concern For All

by Eric Patnode, Vice-President. Student Senate

Over the last few weeks the Western New England College community has been abuzz over the safety on campus, especially Gateway Village. As your Vice-President of the Student Senate I feel it is my responsibility to keep you up to date on what is going on and what will hopefully happen in the near future, to make this college safer for everyone.

After an unfortunate incident that occurred Wednesday evening September 11th, I along with other Senators met with Dean DiRuzza the following day to express our concerns. I reported to Dean DiRuzza that for the past year to improve safety over in Gateway, but that my requests have always fallen on deaf ears. As the past Grievance Chair for Senate I continuously went to Chief Barnes (Head of Public Safety), Al Letourneau (Facilities Manager), and Tom Wozniak (Director of Residence Life) to express the concerns of the students. I was constantly told that it would be taken care of and not to worry. Well a year later, and another incident, nothing had been done. Maybe this time people will stop talking and start taking action before it gets even worse.

During the meeting with Dean DiRuzza, the Student Senate proposed some solutions to improve safety. On the top of our list is to fix and improve the lighting throughout Gateway, especially where the new gate is and down the pitch black road of Breckwood Circle. Also on the top of our list is to see that a fence is put up all the way from the new gate on Breckwood Circle to the back woods on Brack Place. Another idea

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Join
The Westerner
Today

We are looking for:

- Writers
- Layout People
- Photographers

Staff Meeting

Tuesday, October 15
1:00 pm
(Check the Media Office Door for location)

Overnight Program Seeks Volunteers

Admissions Office

Wanna have some good clean fun, and help Western New England College introduce campus life to some prospective high-school students? Well, openings are available right now in the "Campus Overnight Program" directed by the Admissions Office and it gives freshman and sophomores living in the dorms the chance to host a student for an overnight visit to get introduced to the college community and everyday life.

Guest students will live with their WNEC hosts for a 24 hour period that is very structured with activities to give the student as much information about the school as possible. This in turn, helps to narrow down their college choice decision making.

The program has been designed with a personal touch. Guests have the opportunity to atteod classes—ideally, courses that are in their intended major—and to meet with a faculty member of their chosen discipline, usually on a one-to-one basis.

As volunteer hosts to our overnight guests, WNEC students play an integral role in part of the Admissions process. Oftentimes, the first impression of the College's student body is provided during these visits. If you are interested in participating in this program, please contact the Admissions Office officials at 782-1321.

Management Association Gearing Up For Busy Semester

by Kristen Abrams

WNEC - At Western New England College, The Management Association was off to a great start, hosting the Red Cross Annual Blood Drive, on Monday, Sept. 16, and holding its organizational meeting on Thursday, Sept. 19.

The association meets every Thursday meets every Thursday in Sleith 109 at 1:00 p.m. The elected officers for the 1996-97 term are Erin Schmidt, President; Chad Jzyk, Vice President; Heather Kenney, Treasurer; Kristen Abrams, Secretary; and Professor Bazan, Faculty Advisor.

The Management Association is one of the busiest clubs on campus. Each year its planned activities involve social, school and community events, such as the Fall Social.

Other events are various fund raisers, including a "Golden Bear" statue, which has been in the works for over a year. When asked about the progress of this statue, the president replied, "the only thing left to do is to paint and promote it."

Community awareness is also important to the club, as is shown by their involvement in the blood drive.

Another avenue, also explored several times a year, is in the area of professional development. This exploration is done through luncheons and seminars where local professionals come to speak about various topics in their areas of expertise.

Trips to New York and to local companies are also arranged to help further develop the members' awareness of management in its worldly and far reaching aspects.

The association always encourages new members to join and looks forward to the ideas the members bring which then serves as the foundation of the mutivation for this organization.

The person who is interested in professional development through various applications of management and willing to have a good time in doing so, should seriously consider joining the Management Association.

The motto, "Total Involvement = Professional Development + Social Involvement + School Involvement + Community Involvement", is what drives the members through one busy semester after another.

Safety

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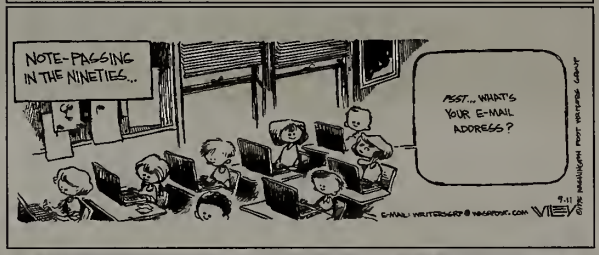
discussed was having the trees trimmed along Breckwood Circle, in order to make it more open. The Senate has also asked for there to be more policing at night throughout Gateway, and that the alarm boxes (by the laundry room, and on Park Lane) be more visible. Also mentioned was the possibility of having a guard shack put up by the main entrance to keep an eye on who is coming an going. I admit these ideas may not be a guarantee against an incident happening but I do guarantee that it will lower the probability because of the high deterrence.

On Monday September 16th, members of the college community and Senators walked around Gateway with President Caprio, Dr. Oberg, and Tom Wozniak to assess the safety. I personally feel that the walk around was very successful and would like to thank President Caprio, Dr. Oberg and Tom Wozniak for coming along. During the walk around we were able to show exactly what our concerns are and what we would like to see changed. It was nice to finally have someone listening to our concerns.

At the time I was writing this article I have not had a chance to follnw up on the walk around but I guarantee you that I along with Student Senate will not let it die. I have noticed that some changes are already taken place such as lighting being, and trees being trimmed back. But I do not feel that it is enough so I ask you and challenge you, the students of Western New England College, not to let this opportunity of change pass us by. This is an issue that effects us all as a college community! So this is your chance to voice your opinion and be heard. I encourage you to write a letter either to Keith Marciniak (Grievance Chair) at box #1108 or myself at box #1518. We will see to it that your concerns are heard by the administration. I also challenge the administration not to let this issue die because if they do then who knows what will happen next time! I quote the student handbook (pg. 137) "our mission is to offer a quality operation with well maintained facilities that provide a safe and secure environment for residents."



October 1996

The ENTERTAINER

Western New England College • Arts and Entertainment Connection

Film Festival Marks Second Year

by Lynn Boucher

Northampton--Independent film fans will be happy to know that the Second Annual Northampton Film Festival will be held November 1-3 in various theaters on the Smith College campus and at the Academy of Music. The weekend long festival will feature over 30 films, both feature length and short, from filmmakers throughout the East Coast.

This year's festival activities kicked off in late September with benefit showings of the cult classic "Rocky Horror Picture Show," as well as showings of the 3-D genre classics "It Came From Outer Space" and "Creature From the Black Lagoon." The benefit showings, held in Northampton and Hadley, were to help raise money for the expenses of advertising, publications, and travel for the non-profit organization.

Last year's midnight showings of "Rocky Horror" were sold out, prompting the festival organizers to add two additional showings this year. On September 27 and 28, "Rocky Horror" screenings took over four of the AMC Hampshire Six Theaters at the Hampshire Mall in Hadley.

Western New England College Philosophy Professor Emmett Barcalow, who is a Northampton resident, has been involved with the Northampton Film Festival since it began over a year ago. He said that a good friend had a dream of starting a film festival in this area and asked for his help. Barcalow became a member of the board of directors for the festival and has seen the event grow into its second year. Barcalow enjoys his involvement in the festival, and had his first brush with the "Rocky Horror Picture Show" at last year's benefit. "More of the 'show' was in the theater than on the screen," he said, referring to the costumed audience members who act out the movie and shout dialog at the screen. He remembers it as quite an experience.

Barcalow said that nearly 120 films were submitted to the festival by filmmakers from all over the East Coast. A panel of judges, made up of area movie reviewers and others involved in the entertainment business, picked 30 of the independent films to be shown at the festival. Many of the films were submitted by faculty and students from film schools, or by people who are interested in breaking into movie making.

The films, which can run the gamut of comedy, drama, documentary, and experimental, will be followed by a panel discussion with the film and video makers.

Novice screenwriters can attend screen writing workshops with Jeff Kitchen, which will be held on Friday, November 1, and Saturday, November 2. Science Fiction and special effects fans may want to check out the Friday evening showing of "2001: A Space Odyssey," with a special appearance by FX Master Douglas Trumbull, who worked on the special effects for "2001," as well as "Blade Runner" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind."

The cost for attending the festival ranges from $5 for a single showing, to $25 for a weekend pass. If you would like more information on tickets, show times, or workshop schedules, call the Northampton Film Associates at (413)586-3471.

Inquiring Fans Would Like to Know

by Jesse Knowlin

1. What was TLC's T-Boz thinking when she decided to record "I Touch Myself?"
2. Do you think that female rap veterans, such as MC Lyte and Yo Yo, will be able to make a comeback, or will newcomers, like Lil' Kim and Foxxy Brown, reign?
3. While we're on the subject of female rappers, why did Queen Latifah decide to play the role of a lesbian in the upcoming film "Set It Off?"
4. When is the East/West Coast battle going to end?
5. Where is the Notorious B.I.G., and what's the delay on his sophomore album, "Life After Death?"
6. Did Jodeci really break up, or did K-Ci and Jo Jo decide to go solo since they sang 99% of the lead vocals on the group's albums?
7. What ever happened to the Aaliyah/R. Kelly relationship?
8. What kind of role model do you think Madonna will be to her child?
9. Can Dr. Dre survive in the rap world without Suge Knight and the Deathrow clan behind him?
10. When are people going to get off the Fugee tip? Don't you think they've settled "The Score" by now?

continued on the next page

The Best of Fall TV

by Sean Weinberg

The new fall television season is now under way. As a service to you couch potatoes, here is a brief look at what's in store for some of your favorite returning shows, as well as some new series you may want to check out.

"Melrose Place" (Fox, Mondays 8-9 p.m.) promises better story lines this season. Allison (Courtney Thorne-Smith) and Jake (Grant Show) begin a "long term relationship," according to the show's producer, while Amanda (Heather Locklear) settles into her role as wife to Peter (Jack Wagner).

On "NYPD Blue" (ABC, Tuesdays 10-11 p.m.), Sipowicz (Dennis Franz) straightens out the problems which plagued his life last season. Meanwhile, Simone (Jimmy Smits) develops some emotional problems of his own.

On "Friends" (NBC, Thursdays 8-8:30 p.m.), Monica attempts to deal with the break up with her boyfriend Richard (Tom Selleck); Chandler (Matthew Perry) gets back together with nasal-voiced girlfriend Janice (Maggie Wheeler); Joey (Matt LeBlanc) gets a new job as a soap opera teacher; and problems develop in the Ross and Rachel (David Schwimmer and Jennifer Aniston) relationship.

"Seinfeld" (NBC, Thursdays 9-9:30 p.m.) picks up from last season's finale. Geor ge (Jason Alexander) finds out that his recently deceased fiance was worth millions and Jerry will sneak out of his engagement as well. Meanwhile, Elaine (Julia Louis-Dreyfuss) will take over the J. Peterman Catalog from her boss, who suffers a nervous breakdown.

"Married...With Children" moves to a new night (Fox, Saturdays 9-9:30 p.m.). The night may have changed, but the show's outrageous story lines have not. For example, in one episode, mom Peg (Katey Sagal) and daughter Kelly (Christina Applegate) form a country music group--The Juggs.

One of the most anticipated new shows this season is "Cosby" (CBS, Mondays 8-8:30 p.m.). This show, reuniting Bill Cosby and Phylicia Rashad, is about a 60-year-old man who is fired from his job and is forced to adjust to life at home. Those who enjoyed "The Cosby Show" in the 80's are sure to like this show.

Also new to the CBS line up is "Public Morals" (Wednesdays 9:30-10 p.m.). Steven Bochco, creator of "NYPD Blue," brings us this highly controversial sitcom about New York vice-squad detectives. Crude language and jokes involving prostitutes, transvestites, and flatulence take this network comedy to a new level.

"Suddenly Susan" joins NBC's powerful Thursday night line up (9-9:30 p.m.). This show stars Brooke Shields as a sheltered young woman who decides to experience life on her own as a magazine writer.

"Dark Skies" (NBC, Saturdays 8-9 p.m.) is a drama in the "X-Files" mode. A young couple discovers a secret organization that is concealing proof of an alien invasion and are followed all over the country hy evil government agents and extraterrestrials.

Information provided by TV Guide and Entertainment Weekly Fall Preview issues.

Almost *Home*

by **Andrea Denise Higgins**

Ronnie DeVoe, Bobby Brown, Ricky Bell, Michael Bivins, Ralph Tresvant, and Johnny Gill, collectively know as New Edition, have reunited after a five year hiatus and successful solo careers to deliver "Home Again" (MCA), an album displaying funky beats, smooth grooves, lush ballads, super producers (Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Sean "Puffy" Combs, and Jermaine Dupri, to name a few), and strong vocals. But something is missing.

"Oh Yeah, It Feels So Good" kicks off the 13 track set, with each of the guys singing how it is great "to be back where we belong." Although they constantly boast about how great it is to reunited and making music as New Edition, the lyrics make me question their motives. When Bivins raps, "Fancy cars n' everything/Silk, slips and trips to Rio/Playin' C-low with the gamblers/Lear jets and different sets," I get the distinct impression that this reunion is more about money and status than the enjoyment of making music with your friends and bringing back the pure power and energy that New Edition displayed in the 80's.

As every track passed, I became more and more disgusted. The music is great, the vocals are amazing (there's no denying that these guys can sing), but 90% of the lyrics are demeaning, shallow, and often times childish. For example, in "Shop Around," which begins with a conversation about an unjustifiably jealous girlfriend, Gill croons "Cause a man's got to do/Every woman he can/'Cause it's in our nature."

Suddenly, the guys seem remorseful in "Hear Me Out," as they moan "Hear me out girl/Hear me out girl/My apologies for breaking your heart." The sentiment is there, but these lyrics belong on an album accompanied by "Candy Girl" and "Cool It Now" (Remember those songs?).

I question the purpose of "Thank You (The J.G. Interlude)." The song clearly does not fit in with the rest of the set (kind of like Gill himself). The "Interlude" is just a shameless display of Gill's gospel-influenced voice and perhaps a small advertisement for his new solo album, which was released within a week of "Home Again."

"Home Again" isn't all bad. Living up to the tradition set by "Can You Stand the Rain," the ballads are incredible. The current single, "I'm Still in Love With You," is pure genius, with passionate lyrics written in the true Jam and Lewis style ("Time passes so fast babe/I wish it would last babe/'Cause I know in my heart/That my life ends & starts with you") and smooth vocals by Tresvant and Bell.

In fact, the ballads seem to be the best songs in the 13 track set. Again, Jam and Lewis get the credit for the sensitivity and emotion displayed by the six singers. "One More Day" is an up-tempo ballad that showcases the guys' ability to sing with maturity ("People tell me that/True love is blind/But I'm trying to prove that/True love is kind/ All that I want is to make things right/So won't you be my baby tonight"). Unfortunately, in the tradition of saving the best for last, the ballads are the last songs on the CD. So put the CD in your player and skip directly to track 10.

The grand finale of "Home Again" is the title track, a beautiful and emotional ballad. Unlike, "Oh Yeah, It Fells So Good," "Home Again" truly reflects what it is like to return home after a long absence ("People who know/They say you can't go/Home again/But if you ask me/I'm happy to be home again"). And, as the song fades, Bivins says something that should make New Edition fans, past and present, happy: "So fellas, let's take this record home. And this time, let's stay there."

"Home Again" is sure to be a success. New Edition fans will be happy to hear the six talented men singing together once again. However, some things should be left alone. What once was a magical combination of talent and energy, now seems forced and unreal. I would have preferred that New Edition remained a warm memory.

Lyrics taken from "Home Again" CD liner notes (MCA Records).

Cover Photo: Shay (Lauri Crook) shares an intimate moment with her guitarist boyfriend Radio (Jack May) in the Winghead Productions film "Without Air," written and directed by Neil Abramson and produced by John Bick. Shawing at the Second Annual Northampton Film Festival November 1-3.

Inquiring Fans

continued from the previous page

11. How long will it be before UPN cancels (maybe all of) the new shows lined up for the fall?
12. Shouldn't "New York Undercover" have number one ratings?
13. Will WNEC's Campus Activities Board ever consider getting a R&B, Hip Hop, or Pop group to play at this year's Spring Concert?

The Life and Death of Tupac Shakur

by Jesse Knowlin

Performers, music industry executives, and rap fans all over the world were shocked and saddened by the death of rapper/actor Tupac Shakur (a.k.a. 2Pac).

Shakur, after leaving the Mike Tyson fight in Las Vegas on September 7, was planning on attending Tyson's after party at a club. As the rapper and his executive producer, Suge Knight, were getting into their vehicle, an unidentified, white cadillac pulled up and gunshots were fired. Shakur suffered multiple gunshot wounds to the chest. Suge Knight was wounded in the head and several other places.

During an exclusive MTV interview on Friday, September 20, Knight, who spoke for the first time since the incident, stated that it was Shakur who saved his life.

When Shakur was first admitted to the hospital, he had to undergo open heart surgery. A couple days later, the controversial rap star had to have his right lung removed. After remaining in critical condition for a few days, (rumor has it that he was on life support), Shakur was pronounced dead at approximately 7:20 p.m., on Friday, September 13.

Many questions remain unanswered. The first being whether the murder was a result of the East Coast/ West Coast rivalry. Shakur, who contributed partially to this battle, hailed from the West Coast (California). He constantly boasted about how the West was the best. In addition, Shakur and his Deathrow label mates aimed insults at East Coast groups Junior M.A.F.I.A. and Mobb Deep. The most notable controversy revolved around the frequent defamatory exchanges between Shakur and the Notorious B.I.G.

A couple of years ago, as you may recall, Shakur was incarcerated for sexually assaulting a fan. He was later released on bail before serving his full term. He's been accused of everything from physically assaulting his limo driver, to beating down movie directors.

Unfortunately, Shakur not only made enemies from all walks of life, but was seen as a negative role model in the eyes of the public. Some say he had it coming. Others say his big mouth caused his death. Regardless of his devilish antics, he did not deserve to have his life taken away so violently; no one deserves to have their lives taken away in that fashion.

continued on the next page

Fall Video's Winning Picks

by Chris Henyan

With the fall season upon us, it's time for the WNEC community to be informed of the hit videos available right around the corner at your neighborhood video stores. Here is a variety of hit movies currently available in the new release section of most video outlets.

"Broken Arrow" stars John Travolta and Christian Slater as bad, and good, Air Force pilots with different agendas. Travolta's is to steal nuclear weapons, and Slater is there to make sure the plan doesn't come together. High action and technology add the backdrop to this cool flick (Rated R).

After the enormously hilarious comedy "Tommy Boy," Chris Farley and David Spade are back in "Black Sheep." This time, Spade is hired by Farley's clean-cut politician brother to keep Farley from ruining his campaign. Not as funny as their last movie, but "Black Sheep" is still good for some cheap laughs (Rated PG-13).

Christian Slater and Mary Stuart Masterson star in "Bed of Roses," a film about love found, lost, and rediscovered. A great date movie, "Bed of Roses," conjures up deep relationship issues and emotions. If you're in the mood for a sensitive movie, there are few better (Rated PG).

"Mallrats?" Are you kidding me? Yes, believe it or not, this is one of the funniest movies this side of "Dumb and Dumber." A great movie for high school and college age film goers. Shannen Doherty, from Beverly Hills, 90210," is the biggest name in a cast that includes Jeremy London and Jason Lee (Rated R).

In "The Prophecy," Christopher Walken stars as an evil angel that comes down to earth to find souls to fight spiritual wars. This strange, but scary, film is one of the few quality horror flicks that Hollywood has produced in the past decade. With Halloween closing in, "The Prophecy" is a super seasonal selection (Rated R).

John Travolta stars in "Get Shorty," an offbeat comedy about a hit man turned movie producer. "Get Shorty" is a fun movie, but a little hard to explain. You just have to see it for yourself. Gene Hackman, Rene Russo, and Danny DeVito round out the star studded cast (Rated R).

Steve Martin and family are back for "Father of the Bride II." Things are as mixed up as ever as both Martin's daughter and wife become pregnant. Diane Keaton returns as Martin's wife, while the wildly rambunctious Martin Short, again, plays "Franc." Part II is just as funny, emotional, and genuinely warm as the first, and well worth the viewing (Rated PG).

Sean Patrick Flanery stars as "Powder," a boy who has possessed incredible powers (and whose face has been powder white) since being struck by lightning in his mother's womb. "Powder" is certainly an original film. Jeff Goldblum and Mary Steenburgen also appear as people attempting to help "Powder" avoid persecution (Rated PG-13).

Making her film debut in "Species," Natasha Henstridge plays an alien woman who seduces and kills men to become impregnated in order to keep her "species" alive. She was an experiment gone wrong, and now the government must send special agents to capture this monster before it's too late. Forest Whitaker also appears as an agent hot on her trail (Rated R).

"White Man's Burden," starring John Travolta and Harry Belafonte, is an interesting film that portrays a society where African Americans are the majority and whites are the minority in America. This insightful, and shocking, film, although not highly publicized, was one of the best movies made in the past year (Rated R).

Tupac Shakur

continued from the previous page

So far there are no suspects, but investigators have a few clues, which they are keeping a tight lid on. Hopefully this will be a wake-up call and put an end to this East/West Coast chaos.

Shakur did not live his life in vain. Aside from his "thug" life-style, he was a very creative and artistic individual. He was an actor, taking lead roles in three successful movies. In 1992, he headlined the action packed film "Juice." He then played Janet Jackson's male counterpart in the romantic flick "Poetic Justice." Shakur also played the lead role (a drug dealer) in "Above the Rim." Before his untimely death, he was working on a new movie called "Gridlock." According to Word Up Publications, the rapper/actor was going to play a performance artist and junkie. Whether the movie will still feature him is yet to be announced.

Let's not forget the major success Shakur had with his certified platinum albums, "2Pacalypse Now," "Strictly For My N....," and "Me Against the World."

His latest album, "All Eyez On Me," was recently certified quadruple platinum and has sold an additional 40,000 copies since is death. "All Eyez On Me" has resurfaced in the top ten of the Billboard charts as well.

Fans can look for an EP release from Shakur on November 5. His protege, Snoop Doggy Dogg, will release his sophomore release, "The Dogg Father," on the same day.

Rappers, fans, and the Nation of Islam gathered together to pay their final respects for the rap legend during a memorial service on Sunday, September 22. There was no funeral service; Shakur's mother had his body cremated.

Tupac Shakur may be gone, but his work and accomplishments will live on forever. He is someone who will definitely be missed. May he rest in peace

Seen any good concerts or movies? Read any new books? Heard any of the latest CD's? Tell us about it! Write for A&E!

The Entertainer Staff

Editor: Andrea Higgins

Contributing Writers:
Jesse Knowlin
Lynn Boucher
Sean Weinberg
Chris Henyan

If you would like to submit articles to The Entertainer, *the next deadline is*

Friday, October 25

Drop off submissions in the Student Publications Office (Campus Center, 1st floor).

Dr. Caprio

continued from page 1

their needs.

He also has a desire to expand the School of Arts and Sciences. He feels that arts and sciences courses "broadly educate" students. The critical thinking and writing techniques derived from these courses are important no matter what field an individual chooses to go into after graduation.

Caprio also plans to focus on campus safety. As a result of the September mugging at Gateway Village, the campus community is concerned with safety. He wants to focus on the entire campus by implementing education programs and awareness activities, adding extra lighting and fencing to various areas, and cutting shrubs and trees that block lights.

Several callers stated that they were happy to hear the president of the college on the air and, most importantly, that he was concerned with the students. One caller said that the open forum was a great idea and "should be done more often." Another caller stated that this was "a great way to communicate."

Wolkowicz allowed the students an opportunity to get to know Caprio better as a person by asking what music and activities he enjoyed. Caprio enjoys "relaxing things," such as reading magazines and books, being outdoors, and listening to classical music.

In his closing remarks, Caprio made a statement that should inspire every student, faculty member, and administrator at Western New England College. Everyone needs to "go the extra mile" in order to make the college a happy and successful environment. And finally, when dealing with others, "make an effort and put yourself in other person's shoes."

Based on the success of Caprio's time at the college so far, that sounds like solid advice.

Assault

continued from page 1

been left behind.

Jen Cunningham, a sophomore living in Gateway, echoed the sentiments of most students by stating that "It really hasn't affected me." She built on that viewpoint by posing this question: "What are you going to do, hide in your house for the rest of your life?"

Senior Ian McEachern may have summed it up best by simply stating that "(Expletive) happens."

Although most students are refusing to let this incident change their mindsets or lifestyles, some are certainly concerned.

Sophomore Shelby Hall, also of Gateway, mentioned that the attack has made her "think twice about going out alone at night." She also wondered out loud about the absence of Public Safety. "It made me notice how I haven't seen any foot patrol," Hall quipped.

There are certainly some justifiable worries, but the attack has been played-off mostly as a rare isolated occurrence, not something that poses an immediate threat to the college community. It just goes to show that even at user-friendly WNEC, big-time crime lurks right around the corner.

But for now there has been little public finger-pointing, except for at the two men responsible for the act.

Senior Gateway habitant Chris Thompson refused to blame Public Safety or feel threatened personally. He closed conversation by characterizing the violent episode as "something that's going to happen no matter how good security is. And its not just going to happen at WNEC, its going to happen at other colleges also."

Meet The President

The first regular "Open Session" for students with Dr. Caprio will be held on

Wednesday, October 16, 1996

in the

Campus Center Mall Area

from

12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

All undergraduate students are welcome

Spring Break '97

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STS is hiring CAMPUS REPS/GROUP ORGANIZERS to promote trips to Cancun, Jamaica, and Florida.

Call 800-648-4849 for information on joining America's #1 Student Tour Operator.

National Coming Out Day

Friday, October 11, 1996

"Coming out of the closet" or "coming out" is the act of revealing the truth about your sexual orientation to others. Coming out is a very personal process and can take many forms. It involves having enough courage and feelings of self worth to reveal this very personal information to others. This can mean taking the risk of being rejected or misunderstood by those around you.

Support your friends, family members, and loved ones who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual. Stop by the Campus Center Mall Area on Friday, October 11 to pick up a button and information on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues.

WNEC's National Coming Out Day is sponsored by the Office of Student Activities and the Campus Activities Board Diversity Committee. For more information on gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender issues, please stop by the Office of Student Activities (2nd floor, Campus Center).

WESTERN NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE

Coming Attractions

First Week

Sunday, September 1
CLUB MED PARTY
HLC – 7:30-11pm

Tuesday, September 3
GAZEBO ACT - MARK MACRI
Gazebo – noon-2pm

Thursday, September 5
BAND - I-LAND ROKKERZ
Front Lawn of Sleith – 12:30-2pm

LASER TAG
Front Lawn of Sleith – 12-4pm

JJ JAMBOREE
Quad – 7-10pm

Friday, September 6
FRIDAYS' "CASINO NIGHT"
WITH JAZZ BAND "SHARP CATS"
Campus Center Mall Area and Snack Bar 8-11:30pm

Saturday, September 7
SEPTEMBERFEST
Tundra – 2-6pm

Thursday, September 12
STUDENT ACTIVITIES EXPO
HLC – 6-8pm

Freshman Focus

Tuesday, September 3
OLYMPIC BRONZE MEDALIST,
MARY ELLEN CLARK
HLC – 2pm

Thursday, September 12
STUDENT ACTIVITIES EXPO
HLC – 6-8pm

Wednesday, September 18
"I DON'T UNDERSTAND WOMEN"
HLC – 7pm

Thursday, October 3
"HOOP DREAMS" WITH
WILLIAM GATES
HLC – 7pm

Saturday, November 2
FAMILY WEEKEND:
DEANS' RECEPTION
People's Place – 10am

Thursday, November 7
LESSONS ABOUT INTIMACY &
OTHER HEALTH ISSUES
Sleith 100 – 7pm

Saturday, November 23
CLASS OF 2000 DAY OF CARING
(Tentative)
Campus Center Parking Lot – 10am

Monday, December 2
PASSIONQUEST
Sleith 100 – 7pm

Comedy

Come join us on the first Wednesday of Every month at 8:00pm in Dining Room A.

Wednesday, September 4
BRAD LOWERY *with* GLORIA WALSH

Wednesday, October 2
TOM CDTTER *with* JUDY CRDDN

Wednesday, November 6
DAN WILSON *with* TOM SIMMONS

Wednesday, December 4
BUDDY FITZPATRICK *with*
ANDRES FERNANDEZ

Films

All movies begin at 8:30pm in Sleith 100 unless otherwise noted. Admission is FREE!

Saturday, September 7
CAB DRIVE IN MDVIE
HAPPY GILMDRE
Quad – 8:30pm

Monday, September 16
MR. HOLLAND'S OPUS

Tuesday, October 1
HODP DREAMS

Monday, October 7
THE BIRDCAGE

Thursday, October 31
SEVEN

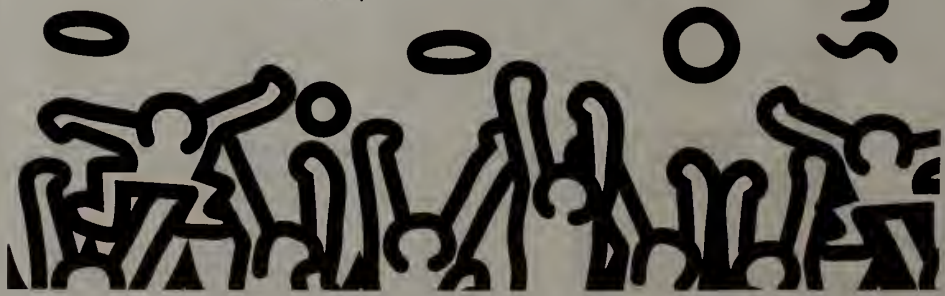
Monday, November 4
DAVE

Monday, November 11
COURAGE UNDER FIRE

Monday, December 2
THE ROCK

Fridays

Friday's takes place every Friday night at 9pm in the Campus Center Snack Bar.



Sports

Attention Coaches and Captains: If you want to see your team and your players here in the Westerner Sports section drop off any articles or pictures you might have before October 25 to the student media office.

"Blizzard" Hits WNEC

by Dennis F. Tucker

Hartford/Springfield—On Friday, October 18th, the New England Blizzard will play its inaugural game at the Hartford Civic Center against the Richmond (VA) Rage.

The Blizzard is one of the first eight teams in the newly formed women's professional American Basketball League (ABL). The team will play a total of 40 games--20 at home, 20 away. The location of Blizzard home games will be divided, with 12 played at the Springfield Civic Center and 8 at the Hartford Civic Center.

To prepare for the challenges of starting a new pro basketball league, the Blizzard has been working very hard. Where? Right here on campus in the Healthful Living Center.

According to Jane Albert, Director of Marketing and Communications, the school was approached over the summer while the team was looking at colleges and universities in the Hartford and Springfield areas. The team decided that since its offices are located in Hartford, it would like to have its practice facility in the Springfield area to represent the New England area. The local choices were narrowed down to WNEC, Springfield College, and Our Lady of the Elms.

Representatives from the team came to the campus to view the available facilities. Pam Batalis, general manager of the team, sent a letter of proposal to Christopher Oberg, the acting Interim President and Vice President for Business and Finance. The president's staff discussed the Blizzard's proposal. A meeting was set for Batalis, Oberg, Albert, and Eric, Director of Athletics to review the situation.

"What was really critical in their selection of the college was the facilities and our willingness to have them here," Albert stated. She added that another factor in the decision was having an Interim President who was handling the matter personally.

It was important to the Blizzard that their presence on campus not be disruptive to the student body. No classes are scheduled in the Field House of the HLC in the mornings, the time and place of Blizzard practices.

The benefits that accompany the Blizzard's presence on campus come in many forms. Plans are currently underway with Career and Human Resources for internships for such majors as sports management and communications. There is also the opportunity for basketball clinics as well as players speaking to groups. Albert noted, "The players are not on this campus to take from us. They're on this campus to give back."

"I hope women's sports make it. I think it's time. I think the time is right," Albert said. She pointed out the commitment of the ABL, not only performing on the court, but off."

When the season is finished and the players go home, they will not just be shooting hoops and waiting for the next season. They will be ambassadors for basketball and the league. They will bring their message to summer camps, clinics, and anyone else who is willing to listen.

One ambassador who was recently added to the Rage, another team in the ABL, is Olympian Jackie Joyner-Kersee. Kersee, the winner of six track and field medals, was a four-year starter at UCLA from 1981-82 to '84-85. She will be a part-time player and will compete in 28 to 35 of the Rage's 40 scheduled games.

When she is not playing on the court, she will be promoting the league by personal appearances and maintaining her track training.

Karen Deden (forward, University of Washington) never thought she would see professional women's basketball in the United States during her playing career. She previously played in overseas leagues in Japan and France, and now hopes the fan base is in place to support the new league.

In addition to Blizzard and the Rage, there are two other teams in the Eastern Conference: The Atlanta Glory and the Columbus Quest. The Western Conference will be made up of four teams as well: the Colorado Xplosion, the Portland Power, the San Jose Lasers, and the Seattle Reign.

At the end of the season each team will have played its conference foes eight times each - four at home, four on the road - and the other conference's teams four times each - twice at home, twice on the road.

The schedule that has been established has something for everyone. The games that will be played at the Springfield Civic Center cover a variety of days from Thursday to Sunday. There are evening games and three games that will be played on weekend afternoons.

Two Blizzard games, both against the Atlanta Glory, will be nationally televised. "This will give us a chance to showcase Springfield throughout the USA," stated Blizzard GM Pam Batalis. The schedule for the Hartford Civic Center is a little more spread out. It covers eight evening games on varying weekdays.

"We feel the schedule spreads out nicely over several months with both arenas and both cities involved throughout," said Batalis. "Overall, we think the fans will benefit all around."

An ABL All-Star game will played sometime in mid-December with the site still to be determined. Fans wishing to obtain further information about season tickets can call toll free, 1-888-512-5626.

Dining at the HLC

by Matt Korte

WNEC - Visiting the Healthful Living Center does not have to be a dreaded experience. Students may now take part in several activities offered by a newly implemented program called the Recreator. The *Recreator*, or recreation menu, is a guide to fine recreation programming at Western New England College.

The *Recreator* is designed like a menu for students who may be interested in entrees such as bike trips, country line dancing, horseback riding, hiking trips, and snorkeling. If these choices do not grab your attention, there are nine other tantalizing entrees.

There is also a dessert menu to accompany your entree, which includes September Aerobics classes, October Women's weight training, November Holiday Health Challenge, and a December racquetball tournament to name just a few.

The *Recreator* caters to the non-athletic students as well as the student athletes. "It is most important not to be intimidated by it," said Cyndi Costanzo, Director of Wellness and Recreation Programs. Costanzo would like to see more students get involved in the HLC community. She is surprised to see more employees using the HLC than students, for example the water aerobics class consists of 28 employees and no students.

Costanzo hopes that by offering nature and recreational programs, instead of just physical programs it will increase the use of the HLC and increase student participation.

the Westerner

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Telephone: 782-1580
Publisher: Turley Publications

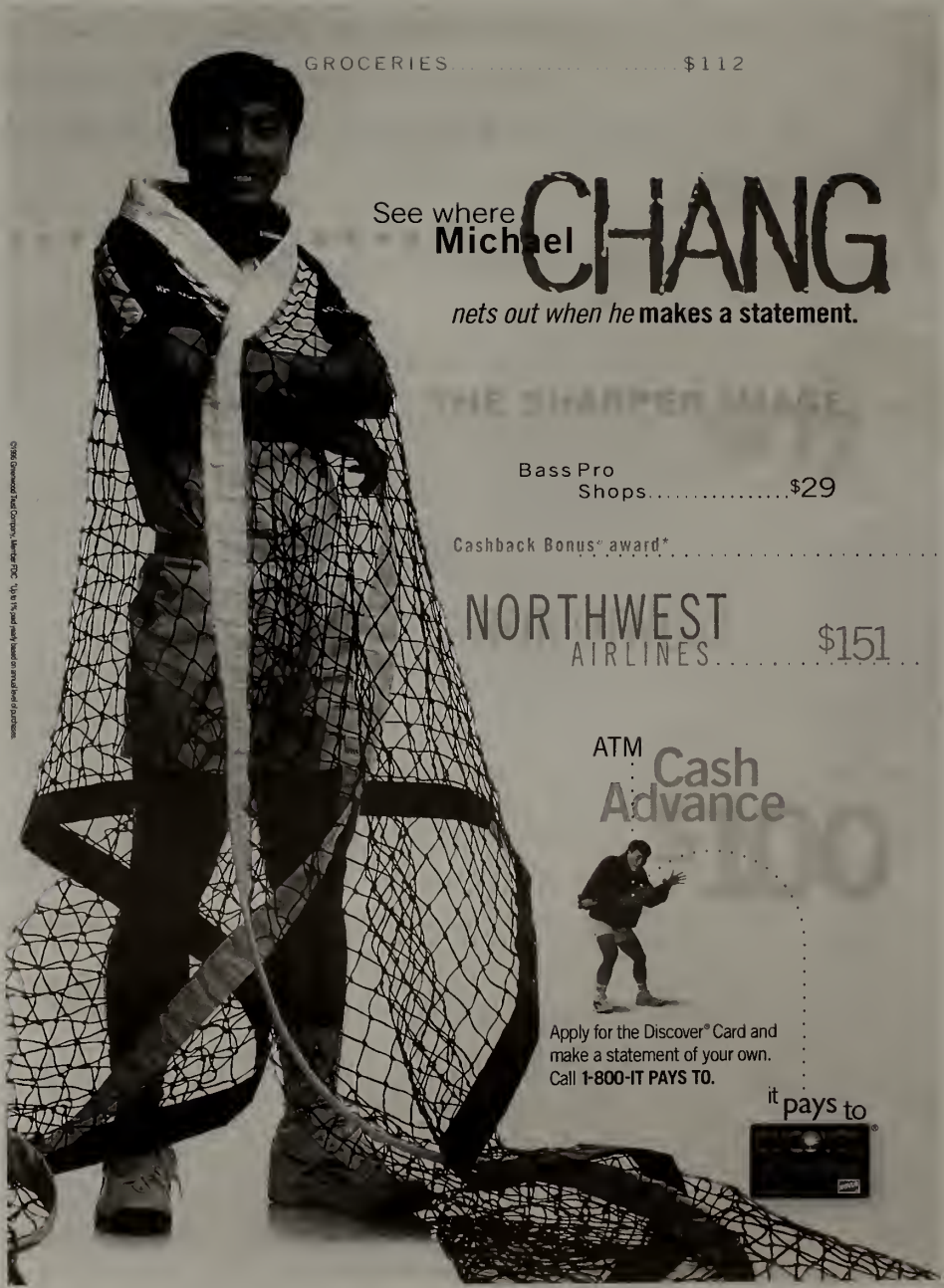
The Westerner is a student operated monthly newspaper. It is distributed each month of the academic year.

All copy and advertising sheets must be submitted before 6 p.m. of the deadline date for publication. Any copy not meeting this requirement shall be subject to the *editor's discretion*.

Letters to the Editor should be typed and must include the author's name and telephone number for verification. The editor is not responsible for correcting submitted letters. Unsigned letters will not be published, however, names may be withheld at the author's request. All expressed opinions do not necessarily represent those of *The Westerner*, its staff, or its advertisers. The editors reserve the right to edit all material. Classified advertising is free to all Western New England College students, anyone offering housing to students, or businesses seeking to employ students. These ads must be 25 words or less.

Display advertising can be obtained for a charge through our business director. Recognized campus organizations are eligible for half page print ads. Free ads will be run for non-profit organizations at the editor's discretion.

All submissions are greatly encouraged.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1996 Fall Sports Schedule

FIELD HOCKEY SCHEDULE 1996 - 1997

AT.	OCT. 5	NICHOLS COLLEGE	H	11:00 AM
UE.	OCT. 8	FRAMINGHAM STATE	H	3:30 PM
UE.	OCT. 15	REGIS COLLEGE	H	3:30 PM
HU.	OCT. 17	SIMMONS COLLEGE	A	7:00 PM
AT.	OCT. 19	WORCESTER STATE	A	11:00 AM
AT.	OCT. 26	ELMS COLLEGE	A	1:00 PM

1996 VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

SAT. OCT. 12	STONEHILL COLLEGE	H	1:00 PM
SAT. OCT. 19	ST. JOHN FISHER COLLEGE	H	12:30 PM
SAT. NOV. 2	NICHOLS COLLEGE	H	12:30 PM
SAT. NOV. 9	CURRY COLLEGE	A	1:00 PM
SAT. NOV. 16	SALVE REGINA COLLEGE	A	2:00 PM

1996 MEN'S VARSITY SOCCER SCHEDULE

ION.	OCT. 7	AIC	A	4:00 PM
AT.	OCT. 12	UNIV. OF SOUTH-TENN	H	1:00 PM
HU.	OCT. 17	CLARK UNIVERSITY	A	7:00 PM
AT.	OCT. 19	MASS. INST. OF TECH.	H	11:00 AM
UE.	OCT. 22	JOHNSON-WALES UNIV.	H	4:00 PM
AT.	OCT. 26	WESTFIELD STATE COLLEGE	A	1:00 PM
HU.	OCT. 31	FRAMINGHAM STATE	H	3:00 PM
AT.	NOV. 2	NORWICH UNIVERSITY	A	1:00 PM
ION.	NOV. 4	SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE	H	2:30 PM

1996 WOMEN'S SOCCER SCHEDULE

TUE.	OCT. 8	SOUTHERN VERMONT COLLEGE	A	4:00 PM
THU.	OCT. 10	NORTH ADAMS STATE COLLEGE	A	4:00 PM
THU.	OCT. 17	WESTERN CT. STATE UNIV.	A	7:00 PM
SAT.	OCT. 19	NORWICH UNIVERSITY	H	2:00 PM
TUE.	OCT. 22	FRAMINGHAM STATE COLLEGE	A	3:30 PM
THU.	OCT. 24	ANNA MARIA COLLEGE	H	3:30 PM
SUN.	OCT. 27	UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND	H	1:00 PM
TUE.	OCT. 29	SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE	H	2:00 PM
THU.	OCT. 31	ELMS COLLEGE	A	3:00 PM

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

/ED.	OCT. 9	M. I. T.	A	7:00 PM
AT.	OCT. 12	UMASS BOSTON w/ WENTWORTH	H	12:00 PM
HU.	OCT. 17	BABSON COLLEGE	A	4:00 PM
AT.	OCT. 19	FRAMINGHAM STATE	H	11:00 AM
UE.	OCT. 22	SIMMONS COLLEGE	H	7:00 PM
HU.	OCT. 24	MASS MARITIME w/ ALBERTUS MAGNUS	H	6:00 PM
AT.	OCT. 26	ROGER WILLIAMS W/ENDICOTT COLLEGE	A	12:00 PM

FALL GOLF SCHEDULE

THU.	OCT. 10	WNEC INVITATIONAL VETERANS CC - 10:30 AM	
SUN.	OCT. 20		
MON.	OCT. 21	NEW ENGLANDS	NEW SEABURY CC
TUE.	OCT. 22		
T.B.A.		CITY CHAMPIONSHIP AIC, SPRINGFIELD, WNEC	T.B.A.

We're Taking Bets That...

by Gregory S. Madrid,
Alumni Contributor

* you can't believe I've finally left.
* summer just wasn't long enough.
* you don't know how the PA's make it through the first two weeks of school with all of their sanity intact.
* it's odd that Cliff lost his Boston accent as "Cheers" went on.
* if you say "That's a rule," then it is!
* Olympic Medalist Mary Ellen Clark was a lot smaller than anyone ever imagined.
* the Yankees will not win the World Series.
* Dr. Caprio is only going to make WNEC a better place.
* the Little Caesar Pizza commercials are some of the funniest on television.
* the New England Blizzard will succeed in Springfield.
* I don't know how they do it, but "Seinfeld" just keeps getting better.
* the gate blocking Gateway only make's things more dangerous.
* if the Patriots can get better in the red-zone they may be a contender.
* books seemed a lot more expensive this year.
* WNEC soccer is going to need to work on some offense if they plan on winning many more games.
* Beavis and Butthead should never have a full length movie.
* WNEC football finally got its offense going against MIT.
* you wonder what every happened to Selby on "Mad About You."
* Coach Martin is the most happiest now that I am gone.
* you can't figure out why McDonald's Express has a picture of WNEC in it.
* McDonald's Express isn't.
* I told Eric DeFazio that I'd get his name in the paper if he did something good on the football field, so he has been one of the most consistent defensive player this season.
* Tiger Woods will win a million dollars next year on the pro tour.
* you've wondered if Windham, with the guys in it, is still the "Virgin Vault."
* the menu in the Dining Hall has gotten a lot better this year.
* that if you look at some sewer plates in Springfield they can't spell.
* the BLT party was a huge success. Congrats to the Senior class.
* Battlestar Galactica is still one of the best sci-fi shows ever.
* Mory's has been a little too rowdy this year.
* the "'Mighty Duck" movies should have stopped after the first one.
* CAB has quietly become the best organization on campus.
* no matter what Bob Dole does, he won't win the election.
* you're getting old if you remember the skinny leather tie that you used to wear.
* the programming the RA's have done this year has been very impressive.
* you don't know where this line is from, "Doing the bull dance. Feeling the flow."
* Penn State will win the national championship this year.
* the rock has finally started to look a little bit better.
* the Boston Bruins will be lucky to win 25 games this year.
* it's scary to see that KISS, and their makeup, are making such a huge comeback.
* the Poly-Sci's voter registration drive was a huge success.
* you don't love Raymond.
* CAB has a great movie series this fall and it's only going to get better in the spring.
* the Chicago Bulls are still the best team in basketball despite all the other moves that teams made this summer.
* you've wondered whatever happened to Natalie Green from "The Facts of Life."
* the Boston Red Sox have to sign Roger Clemens or they will never win a World Series.
* that no matter how many times you've already checked, every time you walk by the mailboxes you have to check again.
* it's great to see that Dallas and San Francisco are not what they used to be.
* this is a weak WTBT, but it takes me a little while to get back into the swing of things.

Movie, TV, & CD Reviews

Yankee Wit Personal Page 10

1996-1997 RHA Roster Page 3

Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

November 1996

the Westerner

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 42 / Issue 2

Come Ye to the Medieval Banquet

by Lynn Boucher

WNEC—Western New England College's Medieval Banquet is back again this year. The November 23rd evening event will feature medieval cuisine and entertainment and promises to transform Dining Room B into a medieval "great hall."

In 1982 the school's previous theme banquet, called the "Madrigal Dinner," held its last supper. WNEC went without any kind of medieval celebration for almost tens years.

Until Dean Burton Porter recruited Professor Ted Johnson-South of the history department and Jimmie Thomas of the English department to resurrect the dinner. Both professors, who happen to be specialists in the field of medieval studies, agreed to launch the Medieval Banquet in 1991. Professors Johnson-South and Thomas will again be heading up this year's banquet with the help of Janet Bowdan.

With the assistance of many student volunteers, the banquet was held in 1991 and 1993. Both sold-out events proved very enjoyable to the participants made up of faculty, students, staff, and families.

The dining room will be set up as though it is a great hall of a medieval manor. The tables will be arranged in a U-shape with the lord and lady of the manor seated at the head of the table and seneschal, or master of ceremonies, seated at their sides. The rest of the guests will sit along the long side tables, just as was done in medieval times.

The food offered at the banquet consists of several courses, usually starting off with soup and appetizers and moving onto a main meat dish with vegetables and then concluding with a dessert. All of the food, prepared by campus food services, is of English or medieval origin. Johnson-South has a tasting committee who prepares different meals and then choose the menu for the dinner.

Between each course of the meal there is an interlude that includes entertainment ranging from singers and tumblers to battling knights. The Stageless Players, WNEC's drama club, will perform a short medieval-style play during one of the evening's interludes.

To add to the authenticity of the event, everyone working on the banquet dresses in medieval costumes, so there should be plenty of medieval lords, ladies, and servants to help with the festivities.

The cost for the evening will be announced at a future date. The event is sure to be a sell out, so watch for tickets to go on sale in early November in the campus center area.

Inside.

Students speak their minds

page 4

Chillin' With President Clinton

By Chris Henyan, News Editor

Springfield—I had just finished eating spaghetti out of a broken pot and I was putting my jacket on when my suite-mate Marc Bianchi asked me where I was going. "Oh, I'm just going to see the President...do you want to go?," I asked. "Sure, just let me put my shoes on," said Bianchi—and we were off to see Bill Clinton. The conversation was so casual it would be hard to distinguish whether we going to see the most powerful man in the world, or to a fall sale at Wal-Mart.

It was Sunday, November 3rd, just days before the big election, and we found ourselves on the cutting edge of the American political scene. We set out towards downtown Springfield where the President was scheduled to speak at 9:00 p.m. It was about quarter to eight o'clock, and we stopped at the A-Plus convience store to get a candy bar. They were out of snickers so I got a Baby-Ruth "beast" bar which was about the size of a little-league baseball bat. We laughed at it, and gorged ourselves with this chocolate missile as we drove down deep within the depths of inner-city Springfield.

With the 'Prez in town, we knew it would be hard to get a parking space, and neither of us had any money. Somehow, we drove into the parking lot behind the Springfield Library and there was one open space in a corner of the parking circle. Somehow we fit into the space and had ourselves free parking!

We got out of the car and followed a crowd of people. Marc asked me if I wanted to steal cars instead of going to the speech. After pondering that for a while, we decided to stick with the original plan and walked down to the Springfield central area where we encountered a gargantuous crowd. We asked about tickets, and some volunteer told us that we no longer needed them to get in, that "everybody gets in!"

Eventually we were shooed into a line full of people trying to gain entrance into the circle where all of the political decor and rhetoric was being displayed and spewed. We first decided to go to the back of this line, until we discovered that it was about (no kidding) a mile long and 5-7 people deep on sides. The sidewalks were completely covered with people. We saw the line swing down near the underpass of the highway and decided that we needed an alternate plan.

Mark and I then pretended to be Secret Service agents by putting our fingers into our ears and pretending to be wired, pretending to listen to the battle plan. We talked into our fists like we were communicating with headquarters. While doing this, we weaseled into the line. We listened to our fingers and talked into our hands a little longer, to look legitimate. After a while, some woman asked to move ahead of us, because she apparently wasn't buying the Secret Service act anymore. So instead of being number 10,117 in line, she became 10,115 when moving ahead of us.

We walked by a bunch of Dole and Weld supporters, and a bunch of people who wanted to ban cruel traps. Marc and I hadn't seen any people that wanted to keep cruel traps, so we decided to rally for that side. Some Dole supporter yelled to the Clintonians that their "Boy

continued on page 3

Caprio Says: Unity in Community

By Aqsa Siddiqui

SLEITH HALL—How should we make our students stay at WNEC as enjoyable as possible? What can we do to improve the academic culture at WNEC? Where do we find solutions to these problems?

These were some of the questions that were addressed at the Retention Task Force meeting on Tuesday, October 15. Sleith Hall was the place of congregation for members of the college community who gathered in the semi-amphitheater to talk about the student body.

There was a concern that in several areas this institution ranks lower than other schools in similar four year private schools. The comparison years were inclusive of the years from mid 80's to the freshman class of 1995. Though the early years of this data seemed a little disheartening at first, there was an ascending trend of academic improvement and the overall quality of the school. Issues like the most frequent reason why students either dropout or transfer were presented. A list of what was important in selecting this college was indirectly affected by such categories as the self-esteem of the student and how many colleges the student applied to. Sometimes the overwhelming data presented was shocking; one faculty member was startled to find almost half of the freshman students' academic dismissals within the two semesters were alcohol and drug related. Dr. Caprio pointed out that this might have a correlation with the above average alcohol consumption rate prior to entering WNEC.

In light of these demeaning figures, Dr. Caprio said, "We are less concerned with percentages and more concerned with improvement of the community. We need unity among the community."

The academic planners need to reconstruct and promote school education by altering the classroom environment. There should be a shared learning community that aids students in their endeavors. For instance, students should be placed in the same class according to major, thus creating a social integration of people within the classroom community.

Dr. Caprio addressed the task force, saying that their job would not be easy. But he knows every attempt at progress will be made. The task force consists of people from the maintenance crew to the executive board. He feels we are all in this situation together and the only way we can improve our situation is, if we as a community can work together. The purpose of the task force is to enhance the social and intellectual development of students, while still maintaining a staff and student relationship outside of the classroom. "We need students coming back and this lies in better education, better orientation, and better first impression," said Dr. Caprio.

"We can't wait on this. These are important issues and we need to work on this now. We have to set our own goals. Do everything possible we can to change this," said Dr.Caprio. "We must fulfill our goals that we set, and ask ourselves what goals can we set?"

Student retention is important for the reputation of the school. With the new president and his positive attitude and the amicable composure he brings along, this school has already changed mush for the better. But we as individuals have the biggest question to answer. Are we willing to change for the better? And if so, how hard are we willing to try?

the **Westerner**

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Active Criminals at WNEC

by Tony Kempesty

WNEC—The Criminal Justice Association of Western New England is open to students who have an interest in learning about the criminal justice system and other aspects pertaining to why individuals commit crime.

The club's executive board consists of: Dana Staples, President; Jen Cunningham, Vice President; Colleen Connolly, Secretary; and Jen Pierson, Treasurer.

The Criminal Justice Association is a member of the national fraternity Lambda Alpha Epsilon. To be eligible for membership at the national level, a fee of $30 must be paid. Once the fee is paid, the members receive a membership pin, membership card, periodical newsletters, and other mail pertaining to the national level activities. In addition, members are eligible to participate in national level activities. Not only does membership offer these great opportunities, it also enhances a resume.

Club members have been busy this semester discussing fund raisers, future activities, and career opportunities in the Criminal Justice field.

An even that is currently being discussed by the club is the possibility of sending representatives from WNEC to this year's national conference in Tampa, Fla. The conference will be a week-long event that will take place the week after spring break. The theme of the conference is interviewing and interrogation. The Criminal Justice Association will hold different contest pertaining to interviewing and interrogation in order to determine who the most eligible representatives will be. Again, national membership is required in order to attend this event.

The Criminal Justice Association is open to every student, regardless of their major. New members are encouraged to join. It is a fun way to learn about Criminal Justice issues, meet new people, and enhance your resume. Also, new members are not required to pay the $30 national fee in order to join. Meetings are held Thursdays at 1 p.m. in Sleith 111. See you there!

Unity Picnic

By Carl Hawkins

Springfield College - On Sunday, September 15, multi-cultural organizations from local colleges participated in the annual Unity Picnic at Springfield College Allied Health Services Building Grounds. The picnic was a collaborated effort by the multi-cultural officers from the local colleges in an effort to promote unity among the students from each of the schools.

Among those participating were students from WNEC's own U&ME, Residence Life, C.A.B., and Student Senate. Clubs from other colleges included A.I.C.'s Price, Springfield College's SSCD, Elms College's UMOJA and STCC's AFRO-AM.

There was a DJ. providing music to keep the picnic live and a variety of food was served to satisfy everyone's taste. Double Dutch, volleyball, and dodge-ball as well as other games were played to help students get to know one another.

A variety of prizes were given to the winners of the games and to those who could name at least two people that they had just met. The prizes were donated by the WNEC Bookstore and Aramark. U&ME wishes to thank them both for their contributions.

The picnic was fun for U&ME as well as the other organizations who participated. Everyone from the picnic agreed that this is a great way to make new friends outside of their own college community.

RHA Directory

Position	Name
Exec Board:	
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Rep.-2W	Jen Johnstone
Rep.-3E	Anna Silvestro
Rep.-3W	Christine Bianco

Chillin' Continued from page 1

was going down." Maybe he was talking about Kerry.

Soon we got into the show, by the barricade of dump trucks (set up all over the area), and had to go through metal detectors. We survived that without a problem, in fact the detector didn't find Marc's pocket knife. As soon as we got through these detectors, we were asked to by volunteers to show our tickets. We explained that we didn't need them anymore, but regardless were told to go stand behind a roped-off area. There were about 20 people behind this roped area, and about 10,000 people over near the speech area. We were treated like a leper colony.

Many of these people who were volunteers walked around with bright yellow "volunteer" tags dangling from their necks, and with the clouded reality that they were Nazi soldiers in a Jewish concentration camp. Some older lady told us to go behind the ropes with the urgency that made us feel like diseased animals that were being separated from the populous so as not to infect them.

But within a few minutes, we were freed from our prison, and allowed to re-join society. We made it to the grassy knoll of the park, much further than we had anticipated. Secret Service agents were all over the place, and we were enthralled with the security of the place. We decided to sneak as close as we could, and somehow found our way past a couple of older Nazis checking for people's tickets.

Before we knew it, we were standing straight in front of the speakers' podium, right next to the press corps. Marveling at our great luck, we were soon intercepted by a pair of secret service men. One grabbed me all of a sudden and said "WHO ARE YOU?, WHO ARE YOU?" I didn't know whether to say my name or laugh or what, but then soon he was gone, flying off into the crowd as if he was so juiced up on caffeine that he couldn't stand still for my answer. Another agent asked if we were press, we said no (I should have said "yes, 'the Westerner"; no he probably would have laughed and beat me then). He pointed to the right and told us to move, and Mark tried to explain that we didn't need the special tickets to be there. Soon we were off into the direction that he was pointing.

The steps on which the speaker's spoke were decorated with American banners, and the University of Massachusetts band played tunes while the crowd waited. Some conductor was standing and conducting, and I questioned just how useful that was. He would swing his arms and body around like he couldn't control his body with such "mad" rhythms playing. Marc said that he never looked at the conductor when he played in a band when he was younger, and my thoughts were confirmed: conductors do just as little as they appear to do. They are really just big fans who can't control their bodily movements when bands play.

A large banner of balloons hung across a couple street posts, and Marc wondered if they would let go of them at some point. They never did.

We finally situated ourselves on the street just to the right of the podium. We had got as close to where the president would be as we ever would. Being probably 50 yards away, we celebrated our ability to get so close in so little amount of time. Some people had waited for six hours, and were buried way out in the back. They just didn't have the weasel skill to pull it off like we did. We had penetrated top security, and wondered: "if we could get this close so easily, how tough would it be for a crazy man with a gun?"

Marc wondered just how many police were at the event, and wandered over to an officer to ask. Marc questioned one of the cops, and he said, "A lot." Marc stood next to this giant cop, looking him into the eyes, and the cop looked back for a few moments. It appeared to be a stare down. Marc inquired again, thinking that maybe this cop could be a little more specific. "A lot," the man in blue said again, while shaking his head. I laughed, as Marc walked away and he said, "I didn't ask him how much he weighed."

We stood in the freezing cold as speaker after speaker offered their meaningless democratic party nonsense. We saw senator Ted Kennedy, John Kerry, some bitchy women that seemed to insult the crowd as she spoke (they loved it), and another older tall bald man who looked sweaty—we figured he was drunk (Kennedy was there, duhh). I think his name was "Olvig" or something like that.

About an hour after he was scheduled, Clinton appeared and spoke to the frozen masses. He said that Springfield was like the most important stop in his travelings or something to that degree, as mealy minded supporters cheered like dogs wagging their tales for their master. As Marc and I stood there, some guy with an "Arkansas" hat slowly moved in front of me. It must have been deliberate (probably not) since he moved from his space (which was just fine) to directly in front of my face. Marc laughed as this clown blocked my view. But soon he was moving over in front of Marc, as if he was a celestial body somehow in orbit around us. Constantly we laughed at this guy's ability to block our view. He would look back time and time again, nervously wondering why we were having so much fun. As he looked back, we had to dodge the "razor" bill of his cap. He occasionally clapped at Clinton's remarks. By the end we would repeat this phrase right behind him: "That Dole guy is pretty cool."

Once Clinton was done speaking, people flooded into our area to see the president leave in his limo. We didn't care, we had seen all the cool secret agents, so we were out of there. We got to my car quickly, luckily discovered it to be un-ticketed, and fled the downtown area with surprising quickness and ease. Just as quickly as it has started, the evening ended as we rolled into Gateway and back to our apartments.

The final tolls numbered the crowd to be about 25,000 people for the night. Many of them waited hours upon hours to get in. Many had obstructed or terribly long views. Marc and I got close enough to get grabbed and questioned by secret service, and were within a football's throw of the President of the United States. We just showed up a few minutes early, walked in, and took our rightful spots up front. Typical Republicans.

Opinions and Editorials

The views and opinions expressed in this section are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily represent the Westerner

Listen Up WNEC! It's Time to Do Something!

It is easy to complain about something that does not meet up to your standards. But it is those unpleasant and unbearable things in life that separate people. There are two categories of people in this world: the people who complain and the people who go out and do something about what they disapprove of. Unfortunately, the majority of students at WNEC are those who complain.

I have been a student leader since my first semester at WNEC. I have enjoyed every leadership position that I have held, and, more importantly, I have enjoyed working with the other students on this campus. Sadly, during these two and a half years, I have watched organizations that were at their height demise overnight. Graduating leaders and a lack of student participation have been the two primary reasons for this trend in student-run clubs and organizations.

I am currently watching the same people hold leadership positions in many different clubs. They are doing it because they are power hungry individuals who want to enhance their resumes. they are doing it because they care.

I was angry when someone called in to WNEK during the open forum with Dr. Caprio to complain about students holding more than one leadership position. Well, if they did not hold these positions, who would? No one! It is these few dedicated students who work very hard to WNEC enjoyable. They should not be criticized for running more than one organization. If anything, they should be applauded. If they did not donate their free time and energy, there would not be a monthly campus newspaper, an annual yearbook production, or entertainment and activities on campus. If you thought you had something to complain about now, imagine how unhappy you would be without these things.

It is easy to say that you have classes to attend, homework to do, and a job to go to in the afternoon or evening. Believe it or not, the student leaders do the same thing that you do. We go to every class everyday. We do our homework (and usually have very high GPA's.) Some of us work more than one job. Yet, we still have time to take part in WNEC activities.

So what is my point? I have a few. The first is that being a member of a campus club or organization does not take a lot of your time. Pick a club on this campus and attend one of their meetings. You would be surprised to find out what goes on. The clubs are not meant to add additional stress to your life. Campus clubs and organizations are meant to be enjoyable, learning experiences.

My second point is that you should stop complaining. I have heard so many people say they are not happy with the activities on this campus or the way the Westerner looks every month. If you are not attending club meetings or participating in the organizations, then you have no right to be complaining. If you attend the meetings and take an active role in a campus organization, you have the power to voice your opinions (and maybe influence someone along the way.) The success of the clubs and campus activities is in your hands.

I urge everyone to take an active part in campus activities, especially the freshman and sophomores. You are the future leaders of Western New England College. When the current student leaders graduate, the campus will be left in your hands. It is important that the clubs and organizations continue to flourish. It is important that the students stop complaining about campus activities and do something to change them.

Sincerely,
Andrea Higgins

A Plea to Dr. Caprio

Dear Dr. Caprio,

Since 1989, I dreamed of coming to this pillar of the college community, which included visions of grandeur and great expectations of the journey they call a "college career". Some of the emotions that convinced me to attend WNEC were empowerment, excitement, enthusiasm, and for once in life the future seemed to be limitless. Every college freshman can relate to some if not all of the emotions that go with "leaving the nest," so to speak. I put both in my faith and trust in this institution to have my safety and best interest at heart. In just a matter of days, WNEC destroyed these intense visions and emotions. My impatience to become a student here has now become a nightmare of great proportions.

By now you are wondering what has crushed my dreams and expectations of "college life". Without getting too personal, I will try to give a brief explanation of my predicament. As most new college students do, I made friends and acquaintances within the first few days. In my heart, I held nothing but trust, idealism, and most of all naiveté. I met someone that I trusted who in turn stole all of these idealist feelings in one horrific moment. To top things off, the college created an even more traumatic situation, that to this day tears at my very existence on this campus. You may ask what they did? Well, I opened my soul to my RA, RM, Beth Ruppenthal, Tom Wozniak, two public safety officers, Chief Gary Barnes, Dean Richard Diruzza, Vice President Judith Brisette about being raped. From the minute I began explaining my situation, I received appalling responses and suggestions from the governing body that has been trained, educated, and PAID to assist me. With the exception of my RA, each person that was contacted about the "situation" or "incident" (as both Public Safety and Residence Life has insultingly entitled it) continued to question "My" character and actions before involving the accused. This was an equal if not more violating experience than the attack. They repeatedly minimized the severity and/or importance of this crime. And to even make things worse, never informed any authorities outside of this lovely sanctuary.

Now, since the "incident", I am thoroughly disgusted about living here. How am I supposed to live in an environment where I have been violated by both a student and the administration. I feel like a prisoner in my own home; I have the shades drawn constantly, keep all the doors locked, can't sit outside my backdoor, can't sleep through the night, can't go anywhere without people whom I trust, and am physically ill. I drive to classes because I live in constant fear that I will find myself in a situation where I am trapped on campus with no means of escape. I have learned that no one here can or would help is a situation like this should arise. Public Safety is a joke and Residence Life is the punch line. Caring, compassion, understanding, and resolution are words that they should look up in Webster's dictionary.

When I first came here, my roommates friend told me that if I was ever in any trouble to call Springfield Police directly and let them inform WNEC's Rent-a-Cops. I did not think to take that advice at the time, but now I can't stress enough how invaluable this is. ***Don't let this fall on deaf ears....Call the "real" police if you ever find yourself in a jam!*** Just to give you an idea to see the process by which I was subjected here is a quick time line of my ordeal. The first notification of my attack was to my RA at about 3AM, then on to the RM, and Beth Ruppenthal was not contacted until about 6AM. Then Public Safety was contacted around 6:30AM where I was given three contemptuous options: 1)Forget about it!; 2) Write a report to Residence Life, and 3) Write a report to Public Safety. And I will never forget the words of Chief Gary Barnes and I quote "**Since there isn't any physical evidence, we cannot consider this a crime, so go home and take shower and a nap.**" (Just a quick thought, if there was any physical evidence, he just told me to get rid of it.) I then questioned whether or not a rape kit was required. He said "no". After the sound advice of Kathy Reid, I proceeded to Baystate Medical Center. I arrived there at 10AM, not at the suggestion of the "responsible" administrators. I was revolted at the realization that Baystate Medical was the first and only organization to contact the Springfield police (at 4pm). To me this is unacceptable and inexcusable behavior for guardians or our welfare and safety. Not only did they disregard the requirements to have an outside source investigate this matter, but they did not even have the decency to offer this to me as a route to pursue.

This has not been the first time that a situation like this has been "mishandled" by the administration here. Approximately two years ago, a student was accused and reprimanded for sexual misconduct/harassment. An entire page of the Westerner was dedicated to this "member" of the community because even after he was disciplined, he was offered an RA position here. This was quite a miscarriage of justice and was swept out from under WNEC's rug to be decided upon by the college community. In effect, the individual's RA position was rescinded. At this time, a poll was done with phenomenal results. Students were enraged by the poor judgmeot and unreliable support system the college uses in determining not only qualified individuals for staff positions, but evaluating the crimes of the accused on campus.

What has to happen for the college to look at it's policies and procedures? Who has to lose their life before they step in and decide they can't be judge, jury and executioner. Not like they have ever sentenced anyone higher then disciplinary probation. If you will also take note, in WNEC's student handbook, a few sanctions are listed but may not be strictly adhered to. In my case, the accused allegedly received an educational sanction. This means he must educate other students on ways to avoid situations like this. What do you think the sanction for murder is? A slap on the wrists or a note to mommy and daddy? One quick note, the "sanctions will vary based on the severity of an offense." If you are attacked, justice will most likely only be served on your death bed.

The most painstaking part of this entire ordeal is that the college has dropped the entire issue and feels that I should just get over it. When I inquired about what action was to be taken, I was told that he would receive this educational sanction. When I asked what this meant, I was told that I had already received "too much information." Mr. Wozniak feels compelled to protect the rights of the accused, but could care less about mine after I was raped. ***Hell, why not make this one an RA for his "good deed!" "He" has been through a lot.*** I feel as though I am choking on the administrative carpet fibers of the rug that they have tried to sweep me under. This previous case was swept from out under the rug, and now they just swept another public relations nightmare under their $16,000 per annum holier-than-thou institution. Why can't they learn how to handle these crimes correctly, with maturity and decency? I think it is time they stop insisting on being judge and jury. I don't see any of them with law degrees, do you? They have mishandled cases in the past and will

continued on page

MARINE OFFICER

UNDERCLASSMEN WELCOME!

- RESERVE A SPOT AT OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL (OCS) IN QUANTICO, VIRGINIA FOR THIS SUMMER.
- COMPLETION OF EITHER THE 6 WEEK, OR 10 WEEK LEADERSHIP COURSE REQUIRES NO OBLIGATION ON YOUR PART TO ACCEPT A COMMISSION AS A 2ND LIEUTENANT IN THE MARINE CORPS.
- RECEIVE MORE THAN $1,50D FOR THE SUMMER TRAINING.
- YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE $1,350 EACH YEAR, IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.
- GUARANTEED "ACTIVE DUTY" CDMMISSION UPDN COMPLETION DF OCS, AND THE FULFILLMENT DF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR A BACHELOR'S OEGREE.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- WILLING TO ATTEND OCS AFTER YOUR FRESHMAN, SOPHOMORE, JUNIOR OR SENIOR YEARS AT COLLEGE (BUT NOT NECESSARILY EACH YEAR).
- MUST ENJOY WORKING OUTDOORS AND LEADING OTHERS.
- BE IN TOP PHYSICAL CONDITION ANO HAVE GOOO ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS.

SPEAK WITH CAPT PETERS AT THE STUDENT CENTER ON THURSDAY, THE 7TH OF NOVEMBER, 10:00 A.M. UNTIL 2:00 P.M., FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

1-800-255-USMC

Lecture Series Found Lacking

Last semester Western New England College was host to Helen Thomas, White House Press Corps Journalist, as part of its human relations lecture series. Ms. Thomas is a wonderful speaker, with name recognition and a message that crossed lines of age, race, and gender.

I for one was very proud of WNEC for getting such an illustrious speaker to come to our small college. Ms. Thomas talked not only of her career in journalism, but also about politics and politicians. She also spoke of women's place in the predominantly male world of political journalism. This speaker was a breath of fresh air. The Human Relations Committee should be commended for this installment in its series.

However, it seems that Ms. Thomas' appearance was a bit of a departure from a lecture series that is not very diverse. There has been a very limited topic base to the speakers who come to campus as part of the Arthur and Rebecca Marshall Human Relations and Human Issues Lectures series. Although issues raised in recent lectures are all very important - racism, religion, and the Holocaust - it seems that the series is stuck on these three topics.

For example, this fall there was a speaker who gave a lecture on the Holocaust, while little more than a year ago there was a speaker who lectured on the film make about her search for Nazi sympathizers in her hometown. These are important topics, surely. But surely, too, there must be a much broader spectrum of topics out on the lecture circuit than we have had the pleasure to experience.

From the few lecture series which I have attended, I noticed that Helen Thomas brought in the largest audience; the crowd was made up of students, faculty, staff, and a large group from outside the WNEC community. Other lectures have mainly attracted small groups from outside the WNEC community but very few WNEC students. I think that perhaps if the committee chooses a more diverse group of speakers, with some name recognition, this series could become a more successful campus event.

Perhaps the lecture committee could look into booking people who speak on such diverse topics as: women's issues, tolerance issues, American political issues, issues of people living with AIDS, issues of immigrants in America, and issues regarding the homosexual community. All of these topics deal with how people relate to and live with one another - human relations.

While I am sure that the speakers who do come to WNEC are interesting and relevant to human relations, if the topic is not going to attract an audience, then no matter how interesting and brilliant the speaker may be, very few people will benefit from it. It is the "If a tree falls in the forest and there is no one there to hear it" syndrome. I think that a diversity of speakers and topics would bring more of a turnout to the lecture series and perhaps bring out a larger portion of the WNEC community for cultural events such as this.

Lynn Boucher

Change is Good

As most college students, you might say that I procrastinate about doing my laundry from time to time. I realize that I should do laundry a little more often, especially since I live directly across from the Gateway laundrymat, no more than 50 feet away.

Well, after two weeks of wearing the same pair of jeans, four day of wearing the same socks (its too cold for sandals), and not having worn underwear since the Atlanta Braves won the National League Pennant, I decided it was time to do some laundry.

Knowing the severe drought of change machines on WNEC campus, I stopped off at the Liberty Car Wash on Boston Road around seven o'clock at night, while coming back from practice, and got a few dollars in quarters. It turns out that this would not be the last time I would frequent this fine establishment today.

I returned home and brought my virtual cornucopia of dirty clothes over to the laundrymat, and discovered that while I had enough quarters to wash all my clothes in three loads (with a little bit of space management and cramming)—I didn't have enough to dry them.

After scrounging around my apartment and car for a few minutes, I found two quarters, 17 pennies, several wrappers from fast-food establishments, a chicklet with some orange "fuzzy" stuff growing on the side of it, and that school insurance waiver form that was supposed to be turned in by October 4th. And then I saw it—a dollar bill, folded up into a microscopic complex geometric shape and wedged half-way in between my ACUS phone bill and a "Devo" tape (whose origin is unknown).

About now, its 8:30, and my laundry is now done, however I was waiting for that "big-ass" Jurassic size dryer (seeing bow it would cost less than paying a buck each for three individual dyers).

I made my way over to the campus center to get some change and check my mail. After blowing the cob webs out of my mailbox, I made my way over to the game room for some change. Little did I know that by this time the game room was closed, and better yet, I was informed by my friend that there was no change machine in there anyway. I guess they sold it to get those two "new" games: Pong and Ms. Pac-Man.

So now I went back to the car wash for more change, since none of the mini-marts will give change out. By now its 9:15, and all of Springfield's "creatures of the night" are coming out. I guess the car wash is a social Mecca for them.

Upon returning to the laundry mat, I found that all the dyers were still full. I started studying for my chemistry test for the next day, and somewhere between the kookieness of "atomic half lives" and trying to figure out what the hell my professor was talking about, my ticket to dry clothes awaited—the jumbo dyer was free!

After maximizing the capacity of the dryer with my clothes, I deposited my money in a proceeded to watch it eat $1.50. After calling the dyer some of my favorite words, I then realized two things. One, that I needed more money. And two, that I should hurry up as this is "no underwear" thing was starting to bother me.

Now I had to go to the ATM and take out ten bucks, then proceed to the A-Plus mini-mart and buy a bag of Doritos (original cheesy) so that I could get some one dollar bills so to take to the car wash to get some change so that I wouldn't have to blow the whole ten dollars on quarters (which at this point didn't seem like a bad idea).

I went back to the car wash and by this time I had made friends with guys hanging out there. I played a game of cards with them, and had a stimulating conversation about the problems that ill the 20th century. One guy was really nice, he offered to sell me a really nice gold watch that he got for his birthday for $20.

I then traveled back to school, and wrote this as my laundry finally finished drying.

My point here is not to complain, but rather to raise a point of common sense. The college spent God knows how much money on new washers and dryers, and yet do not have a change machine ANYWHERE close to the laundry room.

Matt Petraitis

A Plea Continued

continue to do so in the future, (if they can get away with it.) When I contacted an outside counseling agency, they informed me that since the "incident," the college has called to check on my well-being because they were "worried this situation wasn't handled correctly." Are they worried about their conscience or just legal liability?

Ironically, the only individual that had enough courage, responsibility, sincerity, compassion, and humanity was my RA. If I had a choice, I would rather see my tuition go to him, rather than any of the bureaucrats. Admirably, to this day, he still keeps in touch and is genuine in his concern for my well-being and has infinitely supported me. These attributes are non-existent among those who benefit from my tuition. These individuals, belong at the bottom of the evolutionary ladder, for their lack of conscience. A young thriving student, has surpassed all of their "training" and become they are not worthy to associate with.

When I was growing up and even up to this past September, I thought college (WNEC) would be my haven, somewhere to spread my wings and grow. My haven has now turned out to be my nemesis. I fight every day to remain and keep pushing to the light at the end of the tunnel. All I have left is my angst and anger towards those who took my dreams away.

Before I end this letter to Dr. Caprio, I need you to close your eyes and think for a moment. A young girl goes off to college, meets someone that she thinks is a safe and trustworthy friend, who is actually someone who attacks and violates her soul. Whatever innocence remained in life was torn from her being. This young girl is your sister, your best friend, or even worse, your daughter. How do you feel now?

Name Withheld.

the Westerner

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All copy and advertising sheets must be submitted before 6 p.m. of the deadline date for publication. Any copy not meeting this requirement shall be subject to the *editor's discretion.*

Letters to the Editor should be typed, preferably on a disk, and must include the author's name and telephone number for verification. The editor is not responsible for correcting submitted letters. Unsigned letters will not be published, however, names may be withheld at the author's request. All expressed opinions do not necessarily represent those of *the Westerner*, its staff, or its advertisers. The editors reserve the right to edit all material. Classified advertising is free to all Western New England College students. These ads must be 25 words or less.

Display advertising can be obtained for a charge through our business director. Recognized campus organizations are eligible for half page print ads. Free ads will be run for non-profit organizations at the editor's discretion.

All submissions are greatly encouraged.

Arts & Entertainment

Adaptation of an *Ibsen* Classic

Interoationally famous Swedish film director Ingmar Bergman's "Nora," a stunoing new adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's 1879 drama "A Doll's House" is playing now through Sunday, November 24 as the second production in StageWest's gala 30th Anniversary season.

"A Doll's House" is the best known and one of the most popular works of Henrik Ibsen, the man most critics recognize as the father of mudern drama. Dealing with the theme of women's rights and self realizatioo, the play shocked Ibsen's contemporaries when it was first produced.

Inspired by a true story, Ibsen's "modern tragedy"--essentially the story of Nora, a woman kept sheltered from the real world by her husband, her society, and her own refusal to look at herself and her life honestly--has proven to be one of the most enduring and controversial plays ever written.

In 1981, more than a century after "A Doll's House" was first produced, another native of Scandinavia, Ingmar Bergman, debuted his own version of Ibsen's work, "Nora," as part of a trilogy of plays called "The Bergman Project."

Tickets are available by phone (413) 781-2340 or by visiting the box office directly, Tuesday through Sunday from 12 noon until 7 p.m.

Face *The Day*

by Andrea Denise Higgins

Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds has written 111 top-10 R&B and Pop hits and 16 number one hits, sold over 26 million singles and 72 million albums, and won numerous Grammy awards, including 1995 Producer of the Year.

He has worked with some of the music industry's best, including Whitney Houston, Boyz II Men, Mariah Carey, Madonna, Eric Clapton, Michael Jackson, and Toni Braxton.

It's almost as if he began collecting favors (owed to him by the numerous artists he has written and produced songs for) when recording his latest album, "The Day" (Epic Records).

The list of guest musicians, which consists of Mariah Carey, Boyz II Men's Shawn Stockman and Wanya Morris, Stevie Wonder, and Kenny G, is just as impressive as the eclectic mix of songs on this 10 track set.

The first single, and current top 10 hit, is a remake of the classic Shalamar song "This is For the Lover in You." With guest vocals by original Shalamar members Jody Watley, Howard Hewett, and Jeffrey Daniels, and LL Cool J (who also co-produced the track), Babyface shows that he is capable of singing more than just a ballad.

In addition to displaying his R&B side, Babyface also sings the blues. "Talk to Me" is the type of song you would hear in a Chicago blues bar. The combination of Clapton's guitar and Babyface's voice, which moves from low and sultry to high and emotional, creates a mellow mood.

The lyrics portray a man begging for a woman to give him a chance ("Ooo girl, talk to me/ You're the only one that comforts me/My only reality is I want you for my woman/Ooo girl speak to me/Let me hear you sayin' that you're stayin' with me/I know my reality is without you/I ain't nothin' at all").

Amidst the wide variety of musical styles, Babyface's trademark ballads still exist.
His sensitive side shines through in "When Your Body Gets Weak" ("When your body gets weak/And you need some affection, oh baby/ I'll lay you down/When your body's in need/And you need some attention, oh lady/I'll lay you down"). With Babyface crooning and Stockman and Morris in the background, this is a classic love song.

"Every Time I Close My Eyes" has the potential to be a number one hit. Featuring background vocals by Carey and a saxophone solo by Kenny G, Babyface has found the perfect combination.

The song is enhanced by its romantic lyrics: "And every time I close my eyes/I thank the lord that I've got you/And you've got me too/And every time I think of it/I pinch myself 'cause/I don't believe it's true/That someone like you/Loves me too."

The sweetest, and most sentimental, track on the CD is "The Day (That You Gave Me a Son.)"

With this song, Babyface tells his wife, Tracey, how happy he was when he found out that she was pregnant with their first child (Brandon, who was born in August). This is a definite three or four tissue song ("I called 'bout everyone I knew/Just think, I'll be a father beause of you/There's no greater love than what you gave/ A brand new baby on the way"). His emotion is obvious with every word.

Equally as touching, but on a universally serious level, is "How Come, How Long," featuring Stevie Wonder.

This song talks about battered women and how people need to take notice of the things going on in the world around them, even if it doesn't affect tbem directly ("So she fell in love/With the wrong kioda man/And sbe paid with her life/For loving that man/So we cannot ignore./we must look for the signs/And maybe next time we might save/somebody's life").

With this eclectic and strong combination of vocals, music, and style, Babyface shines as one of the most talented writers, producers, and singers in the music industry.

"The Day" is sure to gain more respect and recognition for Babyface, touch the hearts of fans world-wide, open the minds of those who choose to listen, and tantalize the ears of music lovers everywhere.

Special thanks to Sony Music Entertainment for background information. Lyrics taken from the CD liner notes of "The Day," 1996 Epic Records.

The *Color* of Music

by Andrea Denise Higgins

It has been five years, an American Music Award, two Soul Train Awards, and three Grammy nominations, since Bryan Abrams, Mark Calderon, Kevin "KT" Thornton, and Sam Watters, collectively known as Color Me Badd, rocketed to the top of the charts with the platinum single "I Wanna Sex You Up."

The male vocal quartet is back with "Now and Forever" (Giant Records), a collection of "funky raps with old-school R&B, and soulful ballads built around luscious smooth grooves."

Color Me Badd was at the forefront of the recent resurgence of male groups, paving the way for Boyz II Men ("Motownphilly" was released several months after "I Wanna Sex You Up"), Solo, and Blackstreet. With the release of this 10 song set, they are at their best. "Now and Forever" reflects their powerful vocals and knack for capturing the essence of 90's music.

> "We want our fans to have a good time with this record, just like we had making it"

"We wanted to make sure we made the right album," says Watters. "We want our fans to have a good time with this record, just like we had making it. That's why we took two years to do it."

They enlisted the help of some of the music industry's royalty to achieve this goal. "Now and Forever" includes songs written and produced by Boyz II Men, Tricky & Sep, Jon B., Faith Evans, and music legend Narada Michael Walden.

"Sexual Capacity," which was featured in the Demi Moore theatrical flop, "Striptease," kicks off the 10 track set. Picking up where "I Wanna Sex You Up" left off, Abrams croons "Girl, I've had some good/I've had some bad in my day/I never knew someone like you would come my way/To tell the truth, I can't help but be a little afraid/I think your love might be a little too much for me." Their vocal style and strength is established right away as Abrams' smooth vocals build to a crescendo, while Watters, Calderon, and Thornton display perfect harmony in the background.

The first single, "The Earth, The Sun, The Rain," was written by Elliot Wolff (who worked on Color Me Badd's self-titled debut album) and produced by Walden. "Working with Narada was an incredible experience," recalls Watters. "He would light candles in the studio, set up props, do anything to make us feel what the song was saying. It was very inspirational."

That inspiration produced a

continued on the next page

Bulletproof is Full of Holes

by Sean Weinberg

Take two of the most talented comedic actors, Damon Wayans and Adam Sandler, and pair them in a film. One would think this is a perfect recipe for a great movie. "Bulletproof" shows us that this is not always the case.

Director Ernest Dickerson's intent was to make an action-comedy. Unfortunately, for the viewer, there is minimal action and not nearly enough comedy to make up for it.

Wayans plays an undercover cop hired to blow the lid off a secret drug ring. To accomplish this, he befriends an unsuspecting robber named Moses (Sandler), who wishes to become a minor player in this sinister organization.

It is not until a year later, when Wayans is found to be wired at the drug distribution center, that Sandler discovers the true identity of his friend. A frantic scene of crossfire ensues, during which Wayans is shot in the head, and Sandler flees. It is Wayans' belief that Sandler fired the bullet.

Sandler is eventually detained half way across the country en route to Mexico. Wayans, who is forced by his superior to bring him back, despises Sandler because he thinks he tried to kill him. Meanwhile, Sandler hates Wayans for betraying him. The scenes which follow are lame attempts at imitating the humor of "Planes, Trains, and Automobiles" and "Tommy Boy," as the two are followed across the country by a drug lord's hit men.

"Bulletproof" was not a total loss. Wayans' portrayal of a hard-nosed cop was convincing and reminiscent of his earlier characters like "Major Payne" and even "Homey the Clown."

There was even a hilarious scene with Sandler's character imitating Whitney Houston's theme from "The Bodyguard" in a motel shower. It was during the few short scenes like this one, when Sandler showed glimpses of the immature characters he played in "Billy Madison" and "Happy Gilmore," that the chemistry between Sandler and Wayans shined.

Sandler is a talented actor, but he's totally miscast in this role. One has to wonder what Dickerson was thinking about when he hired Sandler, famous for characters like "Opera Man," for the role of an aspiring drug dealer fleeing justice.

The role of Moses requires the talents of a more versatile actor. There is no way that Sandler will ever be believable as a serious criminal toting a gun. He will never be anything but a comedic actor and should stick to films which showcase his humorous attributes. Unfortunately, it is Sandler's unconvincing character that makes "Bulletproof a misfire.

These Walls Say Pro-Choice

by Kristen Abrams

There is always a risk involved with any project on the topic of abortion. It carries extreme controversial weight because of the line dividing pro-choice and pro-life. The HBO original movie "If These Walls Could Talk," explores the nature and history of abortion.

The three story lines of the film are designed to stimulate the viewers and possibly persuade them to the pro-choice view.

The plot revolves around three women living in the same house in different eras who must cope with unwanted pregnancies.

In the first section, Demi Moore, who also directed the film, is a 1950's do-good nurse widow who made a vital mistake one night and got pregnant, just four months after her husband's death. Her search for an abortion, which includes turning to knitting needles, takes place in the era when abortions were illegal, therefore making this practice and others common. The viewer is left saying either "It's her own fault" or "Thank God, abortions are legal."

The second section has a 1970's student and mother of four teenagers who is married to a husband who works nights. Sissy Spacek plays the role: the mother who finds herself pregnant once again. She can barely handle her present situation and feels that she has already given up so much to raise her four children. Because her bratty, "women's lib" 18-year-old daughter urges her to get an abortion, she finds herself torn by her legal right to terminate the pregnancy or to learn to manage one more. The pro-lifers will find solace here.

In the final section, Cher is an abortion doctor who has chosen her profession because she remembers "when women didn't have the choice." This section is set in today's heated turmoil over the issue of abortion with the background of the Brookline shooting at an abortion clinic. Now, we are bounced back to the pro-choice attitude.

In its attempt to explore the past 50 years of the abortion issue, the film leaves the viewer with stimulated emotions and no ready answers. Although a conclusion on this topic is impossible, a middle ground is necessary; therefore, the film suggests that each person must base his or her decision about abortion on personal beliefs.

The film is emphatically pro-choice and reinforces that a woman should have the legal right to make the decision individually. Let us not forget, however, that what is legal doesn't always include that which is moral.

Color

continued from previous page

loving someone so much that they dominate your thoughts, dreams, and visions ("So much joy now/In all that I touch/You make me feel everything so much"). Abrams, once again, sings lead, displaying a falsetto reminiscent of Earth Wind and Fire and the Stylistics, while Thornton chimes in with a Barry White bass.

"From the Back" and "Ooh Tonight" were written and produced by 20-year-old phenom Jon B. The songs capture two very different sides of Color Me Badd's repertoire. "From the Back" is upbeat and catchy, while "Ooh Tonight" is a tender ballad. Says Abrams, "Jon B. is one of the most talented people I know, and we enjoyed working with him."

The strongest song in the set is a remake of the Mello-Kings 50's doo-wop hit "Tonite, Tonite." Putting music and lavish production aside, Color Me Badd went back to their roots and sang a cappella.

Abrams, Calderon, Thornton, and Watters met in high school in Oklahoma City. They became famous for impromptu a cappella concerts in the hallways. Their love for music, strong friendship, and ability to attract attention (their hallway performances were banned because of the large crowds that gathered around them), encouraged them to sing in church choirs, on street corners, and at local talent contests (that they won).

With the vocal and musical strength displayed on "Now and Forever," Color Me Badd demonstrate why the male vocal-group craze resurfaced, and that they still play a vital role.

The members of Color Me Badd are currently promoting "Now and Forever" at various radio stations and clubs around the country and a major tour is in the works. "We're anxious to get on the road and sing for our fans again," says Calderon. "That's really what we do all this for."

It is their strong friendship, love for their fans, and enthusiasm for music that produced the artistry displayed on "Now and Forever," and Color Me Badd has never sounded better.

Special thanks to Giant Records for background information and interviews. Lyrics taken from the CD "Now and Forever," 1996 Giant Records.

A Rapper with Meaning

by Eartha Harrington

"It Was Written" (Columbia Records) is the title of the long-awaited debut album by Nas. The title reflects Nas' experience in Queens Bridge, New York, where he grew up, and his passion for learning and analyzing history of African Americans.

Nas, a native of the projects and scholar of New York City street life, describes the everyday life of the black men and women who strive for or reject success.

Nas provides listeners with the music they want to hear by rapping lyrics that stir a person's emotions in different directions. In every song, Nas enters a different world of anger, sadness, happiness, or hopelessness. For example, in "Shootouts," Nas gives an epic tale of the expression of anger when a day at a neighborhood block party in the projects resulted in a shoot-out between two of his friends because one lost a gambling bet to the other.

Nas describes the situation well when he raps, "gamble in the back, killas shouted, and Frank tried to stop the bank loss, 'bout what it really cost, guzzled his drink and staggered off, he's a big Will, used to sling crills, now he owns the hill, couldn't take losing the cash. Frank's only concern was his papers, my man killa let off...." These lyrics are just a taste of what Nas accomplished.

Nas shows his knack for excellence by having rap protégés like AZ the Visualizer, Lauryn Hill of the Fugees, Cormega, Foxxy Brown, Prodigy, and Havoc appear in songs on his album. Nas also shows his knowledge for good remixes by choosing some of rap's superb producers, such as Poke and Tone of Trackmasters and Steve Stoute, to do cuts on his album.

In his duet with Hill, "If I Ruled the World," Nas speaks of his wish to have a society where things are better for African-Americans. He states, "If I ruled the world, there'll be no cops harassing, no court, no trials, going raw, imaging law with no undercovers. If I ruled the world, could it be, if you could be mine, we'll both shine."

The song gives a wistful idea of how the world would be if all the difficulties did not exist. To give a stronger impact to the words, Hill uses her sultry velvet voice to sing the chorus.

Nas combines different rap styles in his album and even adds some West Coast flavor to it by working with rap's most popular producer, Dr. Dre. Nas takes the listener into his world with every song and gives a picture of what he is saying. It's as if he is giving you his history and plugging it into your head with his visions of what he feels and envisions.

Nas' long awaited album was definitely worth the wait. The album is well planned and organized, and the beats and lyrics are very strong. Nas could not have given a better display of his talent. Rap needs music that is from the heart, and Nas has supplied just that. 'It Was Written" is an album that will become a part of many CD libraries and a daily choice for audio enjoyment.

Lyrics taken from CD liner notes of "It Was Written," 1996 Columbia Records (Sony Music Entertainment)

High on Laughs

by Sean Weinberg

Those in search of a hilarious comedy will find a new home--for about 90 minutes anyway. This comedy comes in the form of director David Zucker's latest film, "High School High."

Zucker, responsible for such cult favorites as "Airplane!" and the "Naked Gun" series, was able to take overused premises in dramas and successfully turn them into comedies. In "High School High," he takes the latest trend of making movies about inner-city schools and brings it in a whole new direction.

The plot of this film is a simple one. Jon Lovitz stars as Richard Clark, a teacher at a highly respected private school. Clark decides to leave his position to take a new one at a run-down, inner-city high school.

No one believes he can make a difference, except for himself and Victoria Chappell (Tia Carrere), the principal's assistant. Despite the odds against him, Clark is able to turn a horrible situation completely around through his teachings.

Although the premise sounds familiar, it's the comedy that makes this film unique from any other. For example, as Clark crosses "the dividing line" between the suburbs and the inner city, his car radio, which had been playing an old Carpenters song, is suddenly over taken by "gangsta rap." As Clark feverishly switches the dial, he quickly learns every station is playing the same song.

The laughs continue as he enters his new school, Marion Barry High, for the first time. Before he even gets out of the parking lot, Clark's car is stolen from right behind him. Even the briefcase he had been carrying is taken, leaving him gripping a handle with nothing attached. Despite these occurrences, he seems unphazed.

When he walks into the school, we are reminded of the film "Lean On Me." Principal Doyle (Louise Fletcher) is shown standing in the middle of a crowded hallway and screaming through a megaphone as she hits students over the head with a baseball bat.

Similar to the film "Dangerous Minds," the teacher is unable to get through to the students until the most influential student is convinced to set an example. In this case, the students name is Griff (Mekhi Phifer). The students' new interest allowed for an amusing scene in which Clark demonstrates how to open a book as the students stare in amazement.

As in his previous film, Zucker stretches the possibilities to the most ridiculous. For example, Clark makes such a strong impact on the students that they start to dress in preppy attire while a choir roams the halls of the suddenly beautiful school.

However, in a plot twist involving falsified test scores, the students turn on Clark. He spends the rest of the film trying to earn back their respect finding those who framed them.

Lovitz's portrayal of Richard Clark is a major reason for the film's success. The way he delivers extremely funny dialogue in a very sublet way adds to the impact of the jokes and sight gags that fill this very entertaining movie.

If you would like to submit an article to *the Westerner*, the next deadline is:
Friday, November 15th

Need an extra credit?
Sign up for *the Westerner's* class!
ENGL 292-02
Thursdays at 1:00

Pearl Street November Schedule of Events

10 Pearl St., Northampton, MA., (413) 584-7771
http://www.virtual-valley.com/pearl-street/

Weekly Events:

Every Wednesday
Dream
All New Rave Nights!
(Regional DJ's come to Pearl Street to spin the hottest Techno in the valley.)

Every Thursday
The area's biggest
High Energy Dance Party

Every Friday
Retro Night
(Music from the 70's, 80's, and 90's)

Every Saturday
Dance Club

Thursday, November 7--
Warren Zevon with Chris Whitney
Warren Zevon makes a rare area appearance that's not to be missed. Chris Whitney opens solo acoustic.
8 p.m., 21+, $12 (advance)/ $14 (door)

Friday, November 8--
Roomful of Blues
Put on your dancing shoes! This jump blues outfit has class and brass.
8:30 p.m., 21+, $11 (advance)/$13 (door)

Saturday, November 9--
Corey Sevens
Down home rock 'n roll that's good for your soul.
8:30 p.m., 21+, $5 (advance)/$6 (door)

Advanced tickets for all shows are available at The Northampton Box Office, For The Record in Amherst, About Music in Greenfiled, Tix Unlimited at UMASS, and at all Strawberries locations.

Sunday, November 10--
Spring Heeled Jack with Agents/Big Lick
Is it ska or isn't it? The cutting edge of ska is here!
7 p.m., 18+, $12.50 (advance/$15 (door)

Tuesday, November 19--
Jesus Lizard
Squirm on the ground and shed your sin--you have to see them to believe it!
8 p.m., 18+, $10 (advance)/ $12 (door)

Saturday, November 23 & Sunday, November 24--
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The plaid boys of Boston are back for two nights of hard shakin' fun!
7 p.m., 18+, $12.50 (advance)/$15 (door)

By phone: Call (413) 586-8686 or 1 (800) the-tick

Sports

A Tainted Win

By Sean Weinberg

Baseball's post-season was filled with many great performances, especially the dramatic comeback of the Atlanta Braves in the second round. Unfortunately, this year's playoffs will not be remembered for any of them. As stupid as this sounds, the '96 playoffs will be remembered for the actions of a twelve-year-old boy.

Jeff Maier was sitting in the front row of the right field bleachers at Yankee Stadium during the first game of the American League Championship Series. In the bottom o f the eighth inning, with the Yankees trailing the Orioles 4-3, Derek Jeter hit a fly ball that would have come about a foot short of clearing the right field wall. As you know by now, Maier reached out into the field of play and caused the ball to go into the stands.

Each television replay clearly showed this, meaning that it should have been ruled fan interference, which is an automatic out. However, right field umpire Rich Garcia called it a home run, allowing New York to tie the score, and eventually win the game in extra innings.

Immediately following this incident, Maier gained national attention. He made the front page of every major newspaper in New York the following morning, as well as appearing on NBC's "Today" show, and several other talk shows. The only other kid who was more over-exposed in October was Madonna's baby.

If Garcia had made the right call, Maier would have been responsible for a big out in a crucial situation for the Yankees. This young kid would have needed more security than the Pope to get out of the stadium safely.

But because of Garcia's mistake, Maier was treated like royalty by Yankee fans. He was allowed to ride around in a limousine and received front row seats next to the Yankees' dugout for the second game from a New York newspaper. He was even seen on the sideline for a New York Giants' game. Leave it to New York to glamorize anything that resembles cheating.

I'm not blaming Maier for what he did. I, like most people, would have gone for the ball as well. The blame lies with two other groups. One is Yankee Stadium Security, which continued to show its usual ineptness by not keeping fans away from the top of the wall. The other is the umpiring crew that worked that series. It's hard to believe that with five other umpires on the field beside Garcia, none of them could see that the fan interference had clearly occurred.

These two groups were directly responsible for keeping New York in this game. Maier just did what anyone would do if allowed. So, Yankee fans, if you want to glamorize this tainted win, why not give credit to those who really deserve it?

And the Progress Reports are in for WNEC Athletics

By Aqsa Siddiqui

The progress gradeds basis of evaluation was in comparison of last year's playing level to the current level of play. All records are accurate as of Ocotber 26. Every facet of a team's aspect was recorded and reviewed before any assessment was done. This is a purely subjective article and has not been influenced by any external sources. Although there might be some discrepancies of the evaluation, no deliberate indignation is intended. All decisions are hereby final unless the team proves otherwise.

Men's Soccer team

"The increase in team size should help us improve." said coach John Coburn before the season began. This year, the team has added one more player to its roster than last year, giving them a total of 25 players. Compared to last year's team the soccer team has no where to go but up. The team has potential that needs to be exploited. There are many new faces on this team that show us, given the right parameters, this team is a winner.

Defense: D Though the team will not give up as many goals as it did last year, nevertheless, the goals against average remain at a laughable 3 goals per game. With a 71% save rating going into Saturdays game, they need changes in the off-season. The transition from defense to offense is sluggish, which opponents have taken advantage graciously of this weakness, scoring 46 goals to their 21.

Offense: C Although they have won more games this year than last season, WNEC has scored just 21 goals in 14 games, but F Joe Paschetto, who is tied second in the league, has factored in 16 of them with 8 goals and 8 assists. The other goal scoring offense is formed by 2 new faces this year, M Corey Conway and F Chris Kirk who have combined for 9 goals. Their three victories have been decided by one goal, suitably matching their average of 1 goal per game scored. With Sr. Joe Paschetto, their table setter, who will graduate this year, the offenseve leadership will be in question next year. Far from playing competitively, this team needs to take one season at a time to break away from the cellars of their divisions. There are many adjustments that must be fine tuned with practice before WNEC soccer can pose any threat of stepping out of the basement of their division.

Varsity Football

If none of the football players had shown up this year on the field, there wouldn't have been much of a difference in the team's record. With consistent trends of losing year after year, WNEC football must question their inept coaching. Their defensive linemen and defensive backs lack in size, speed, and quickness that is indicative of their respected positions. This exemplifys why they have given up 23 touchdowns this year, 11 in the air and 12 on the groud to their 8. No fault can be pointed at one player without looking at the constituents of the undermatched linemen. The opponents' defensive line is bigger and quicker and almost every time they plow through the offensive linemen; creating a pressure cooker for the quaterback. And sometimes the pressure is so overpowering that the quaterback has to succumb to it. WNEC quaterbacks have already been sacked 24 times. With the present victories standing at 1 win and three more games left in the season, WNEC football has nothing to prove but that they need major changes over the off-season.

Offensive: F The passing and rushing game seem to have a descending trend from last year. WNEC quaterback's have combined for 3 touchdown this year. With all the touchdowns coming from backup QB, John Mancuso. Opponents have managed to keep WNECís rushing and passing to a minimum. The rushing yards and passing yards are down from last year. From 151 yds. rushing per game to a dismal 79 yards per game rushing this year. The passing game has been just as ineffective, from 113 yds. passing per game last year to 103 yards per game this year. WNEC is predominantly a running team, but without a qualified running game and a decent arm there is no future for this offense. Despite the worst that this team has fared this season, one thing that is promising for next year is the development of their strong tight end position, who freshman Tim McDonough secures. At 6'3 and 210 lbs. , this freshman is second on the team with 175 yds received, while catching all three touchdowns from the backup quaterback.

Defense: F The defense is weak and almost non existent. Like an artist without his paintbrush the coaching is not in sync with their players. The players have seemed to be prone to blow coverages, miss tackles, and tally up penalties with great precision. These are all skills that can be improved on during practices. The defense has given up an average of 20 points before the second half and a total of 358 yards per game; allowing opponents' quaterbacks to complete 55% of their passes. With this season washed away, the defense has just one positive outlook for next year: theyíve been so used to being licked this season, that next year's licking shouldn't hurt as much.

Women's Field Hockey

Although the team's season has not officially ended, for the players it has. It was a long season with losses after losses. The team has lacked an offense and a defense for several seasons now and this reflects on their pitiable record. With only one win secured under their belts this season, this team has a chance to be the worst women's field hockey team in WNEC's history.

I Partly due to their failure in attempts at victories is the lack of experience. "For us to be successful, the freshman will have to step up and play like upperclassmen." said coach Nancy Rivard, who is the second replacement coach in as many years.

This is a young team that should not be given up on. With a combined 10 freshman and sophomores on this team, youth is on their side. The team must think about rebuilding before any mediocre level of play is established. It is an ignominy to give this team a grade. For there is no grade that will suffice the current playing level they are playing at. This team is incomplete because of the too many missing pieces on this team.

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Progress Reports Cont.
From page 10

Women's Varsity Soccer

In the midst of all the fall teams' losses, the girl's varsity soccer team have ameliorated their status as the sole winners in the fall season. The team has picked up right where they left off from last year's winning record of 12-8, winning their last 7 games in a row. With 13 players returning from last year, Head Coach, Ron Dias expects his team to improve on last year's mark. So far the team has roared to a 9-1 record going into Sunday's game.

Defense: A The defense is at the epitome of this stalwart team, opponents have averaged a goal per game while being shutout 5 times out of their 9 losses. The biggest question mark before the season began was in goal, Marissa Stawsz not only has answered that question but is doing it with an exclamation mark. She is near impeccable against opponents trying to score, by turning away opponents at an an amazing percentage of 86%.

Offense: A The offense hasn't missed a beat from last year, scoring on average of 3 goals per game this year. Leading the way in goals scored is, Sr. Eilleen Monaghan with 14 and just a stride away is sophmore Katie Brunell with 11, who have combined for 75% of WNEC goals and over half of the assists. This tag team scoring machine, who have already established new school records have erected their ability to exceed and quiet their opponents with a single kick. "The key thing for this team is staying healthy", says Ron Dias. So far the womenfs team has no opponent that will quiet the growl of this golden bear.

Baseball Robbery?
By David Weinberg

On October 9, one of the most bizarre and controversial plays in Major League Baseball "punctuated by a New York moment" (Boston Globe, E 1) fabricated a game for the ages. The New York Yankees were hosting the Baltimore Orioles (at Yankee Stadium) in Game 1 of the American League Championship Series. Baltimore was winning the game 4-3 in the top of the eight inning, thanks to superstar Brady Anderson and Rafael Palmeiro's back to back home runs. However, when the Yankees came to bat in the bottom of that inning, fate changed the game around for the home team.

With one out, Yankee second baseman Derek Jeter came to the plate. He swung at the pitcher's offering and sent a deep fly-ball to the right-field wall. Orioles right fielder Tony Tarasco appeared like he was going to make the catch without any problem. Therefore, Tarasco was dumbfounded to see the ball go over the fence for a home run.

However, the ball went out of the ballpark solely because a twelve-year-old (Yankee) fan reached over the fence with his glove to steal an out from the Orioles. As a result of the "phantom home run," the Yankees tied the game at 4-4. Both Tony Tarasco and Baltimore manager Davey Johnson were irate that right-field umpire Rich Garcia could make such a horrendous call, when it was so obvious that Derek Jeter did not hit a legitimate home run. In any case, Rich Garcia "stuck to his guns" by not permitting Davey Johnson or Tony Tarasco to influence his call. This call proved to be a major factor in the games outcome. The two teams went into extra innings, were New York eventually finished off "the birds" (Orioles) in the eleventh. Yankees center-fielder Bernie Williams launched a one ball one strike pitch high into the Bronx night. The ball landed in the left-field seats, producing a debatable Yankees victory over the Orioles, 5-4.

In a poll conducted of twenty WNEC students, here are their thoughts about the controversial home run:

35% thought that Derek Jeter would have been out.

25% thought the home run should have been a ground rule double.

10% thought the hit would have been a home run even without the help of the fan.

10% thought the twelve-year-old had every right to catch the ball-even if it would not have been a home run.

10% were uncertain-it was up to the umpire's judgment, right or wrong.

5% thought the kid and the umpire were both wrong.

5% thought the game should be appealed-and done over.

Management Association prepares for *Golden Bear* Fundraiser
see page 4

Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

April 7, 1997

the Westerner

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 42 / Issue 3

Dr. Caprio to be Inaugurated

by Tony Kempesty

On Friday, April 25, at 2:30 p.m., in the Alumni Healthful Living Center, Dr. Anthony Caprio will be sworn in as the fifth president of Western New England College at a special inauguration ceremony.

Inaugurations date back many centuries and have a high level of prestige associated with them. Caprio's will not be an exception. Before the faculty and staff, Caprio will be handed the medallion and commit to uphold the duties that a college president has the responsibility to accomplish.

The ceremony will begin with a formal precession that will consist of a diverse group of individuals, including academic colleagues from the college, as well as colleges in New England, New York, and New Jersey.

In addition, students are encouraged to attend and take part in this important ceremony. Student leaders will take part in the processional march carrying banners in representation of their club or organization. Student participation is vital and is sure to be as asset to the ceremony.

The event is not just available for current students. College Alumni have been invited to honor Caprio.

A number of local political figures, including State Senator Brian Lees, State Representative Paul Caron, and Springfield Mayor Michael Albano, will also attend the loauguration ceremony.

Western New England College has a diverse group of students that represent 33 different states and 16 countries. Student representatives from each state and country will represent their home by carrying their own state or country flag.

The ceremony will be conducted in a very prestigious manner, and the addition of music is an extremely important part of it.

Photo by Dr. Dana Cullen

Dr. Anthony Caprio

Among the musical groups invited to attend the ceremony are the Springfield Symphony Orchestra's Brass Quartet, the Army R.O.T.C., and Western New England College student Andrew Bogle, who will sing the *National Anthem*.

The campus will close at 12:00 p.m. on April 25 in order to give everyone a chance to prepare for and attend the ceremony. Caprio hopes that this special occasion will bring the Western New England College Community together.

In addition to the Inauguration ceremony, there will be a Pre-Inauguration celebration on April 12. This event is more of a social gathering to let people socialize and have a good time. The Pre-Inaugural celebration will be a semi-formal event with a variety of Hors d'oeuvres and a dessert buffet. Reservations are required for this celebration.

If you are interested in attending please RSVP by April 7: call 782-1450 or send an email to inauguration@wnec.edu. There is no charge for students, faculty, or staff, but there is a guest fee of $10.

The Board of Trustees, Faculty, Staff and Students
of
Western New England College
request the honor of your presence at the Inauguration
of
Dr. Anthony S. Caprio
as the fifth president of the College.

Friday, April 25, 1997
at 2:30 p.m.

Inaugural reception immediately following the ceremony.

Alumni Healthful Living Center
Western New England College

A World of Ideas

by Andrea Denise Higgins

After last year's success, the World Game will return to Western New England College on Thursday, April 17, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the Healthful Living Center.

Professor Emmett Barcalow describes the World Game as a "simulation of world problems." At the beginning of the event, groups are assigned a particular area of the world and given a problem to solve, such as the environment, wars, overpopulation, and human rights.

During the three hour time period, these groups are encouraged to think about the problems and come up with a reasonable and creative solution to the problem that will "meet the needs of all people," Barcalow explained. While trying to come up with a solution, the group members must negotiate with other groups, which could lead to six or seven new problems.

The World Game was created approximately 25 years ago by Buckminster Fuller, who was an engineer, scientist, and philosopher. This "jack of all trades" is someone that Barcalow describes as an "extraordinarily brilliant and creative individual." Fuller had a lot of engineering patents to his credit and was interested in meeting the needs of people. "His engineering designs were an attempt to use technology for the good of everybody, not just the wealthy," Barcalow explained.

Fuller created the World Game as "a way of introducing people to the experience of running the world," Barcalow described. Fuller felt that reading about world problems was passive, and that people needed to get more involved in thinking about them and creating possible solutions.

In conjunction with the World Game is a one credit course, offered during the spring semester, to educate students about world problems and prepare them for the game. The students listen to lectures about the environment, the United Nations, justice, and the media, and discuss the lectures and films shown about the topics. In addition, the students pick one world problem to explore throughout the semester and write a paper on.

A host of faculty, including Barcalow, Don William, Richard Pelosi, and Martha Garabedian, take an active role in these lectures and discussions.

The World Game is open to everyone on campus. If you are interested in taking part in this year's game, register with Dean DiRuzza's office. However, if you do not register, if there is room left, you can register at the door the day of the event.

Westerner Highlights

1997-98 Student Leaders 3
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From the President's Desk...

The news we learned wos good. Under the direction of Andreo Higgins os Editor-in-Chief, spring would see the oppeoronce once again af a vital force ot Western New Englond College—the Westerner. The goals of the Editor-in-Chief ond her staff are noteworthy: a schaol newspaper that is accessible ta everyane an campus. The Westerner is intended to be our voice and o reflection of who we ore. The newspoper helps shape our identity. We see who we ore os we express ourselves through the pages we write abaut ourselves. The College's paper keeps us all current. It helps us understond the issues ond concerns thot ore ours. The newspoper helps us sort things through.

Writing and producing a College newspaper is not eosy work, particulorly when closses ond job responsibilities ore ever present. For her willingness to make the vaice of the paper ring out agoin, oll of us ore grateful to Andrea Higgins. Ta Andrea and her staff we express aur gratitude.

Andreo's call for participotion deserves our response. I call upon everyone on this campus to make the Westerner theirs. Let's suppart the Westerner in every woy possible—writing for it, reading it, ond encouraging its leadership wha hove made o cammitment to the success of the poper.

Anthony S. Caprio
Dr. Anthony S. Caprio
President

A Message From The Editor...

Integrity is a very powerful word. I think it's so powerful because every action or project that we center around integrity becomes successful. To instill a code of values into everything we do should be in the forefront of our minds. School work, friendships, jobs, and clubs or organizations are among the few things that we need place an emphasis on and perfect at Western New England College.

However, deadlines, schedule conflicts, and stress often prevent us from devoting the quality time necessary to make a project, professional, academic, or personal, complete and stable. Integrity sometimes, unintentionally, gets lost in the shuffle of our everyday lives. *The Westerner* is not an exception.

When I began working on *the Westerner* at the beginning of my freshman year, the paper had just built up an enormous amount of integrity. I joined the staff because it was an honor to work on a respected paper, a joy to work with a close-knit staff, a learning experience to complete layout each issue and obtain the necessary articles, and a thrill to share my writing with others.

I joined *the Westerner* an aspiring journalist and became a student leader, an accomplished editor, and a polished writer. This is an opportunity that everyone should take advantage of.

The Westerner is the voice of the students. It is up to you to make sure your opinions and interests are expressed. We cannot hunt you down and find out what they are. But if you let us know, we would be more than willing to run with them and help you express them.

The Western New England College campus community is diverse in opinions and interests, but they aren't all expressed. This is your chance. Be a part of *the Westerner* and take pride in knowing that you contributed to its success.

Being a part of *the Westerner* does not mean spending every free hour on your schedule in the publications office. You can contribute in many ways: writing articles, taking photographs, promoting your club and its events, attending meetings, or joining our executive board. It's a worthwhile venture on any level, and the experience is rewarding for those who wish to dedicate their time and energy.

This is just the first issue of what I hope will be many successful and respected *Westerner* publications. I extend my sincere gratitude to those who sacrificed time and energy, stepped up to bat, and hit a home run for this publication.

With continued support and contributions from the faculty, staff, and, most importantly, the students of Western New England College, *the Westerner* will once again be a paper that consists of integrity. I encourage you to be a part of that experience.

Sincerely,
Andrea D. Higgins
Editor-in-Chief

Be A Part of *the Westerner!*

Next Meeting
Tuesday, April 15

Check the Publications Office Door for location

We need writers, photographers, layout editors, copy editors, and more...

New Student Leaders Appointed

The Westerner would like to congratulate the following students who were appointed to leadership positions for the 1997-1998 academic year. Best of luck in your endeavors.

Peer Advisor Candidates

Ray Baldwin
Jen Casceillo
Jesse Chapin
Heather Croughwell
Kelly Curtin
Pete Driscoll
Chantal Dupuis
Kelly Dwyer
Colleen Gabert
Sara Grunin
Tracy Hook
Jessica Hopkins
Amber Janes
Jaclyn Kavaleski
Kathy Labieniec
Leslee Larrivee
Laura Lebiedz
Katie McGann
Nara Mitchell
Rebecca Miskiv
Cinnamon Moran
Emily Neale
Crystal Nepus
Paul Nuzzo
Anne Oswald
Matthew Petraitis
Adrienne Petrino
Jayme Pratt
Chris Rushford
Melinda Sabo
Kyle Schadler
Jessica Steel
Jyll Toncer
Suzanne Wypy
Jill Zaborowski

Resident Advisors

Jennifer Beck
Steve Bourke
Deborah Brennan
Tim Carolan
Ryan Courtemanche
Desiree Croteau
Jennifer Cunningham
Matt DeFranco
Angela DeSantis
Paul Doyon
Erin Foley
Matt Frary
Julie Gentile
Amy Hoosick
Jeff Kraft
Chad Looman
Keith Marciniak
Stephanie McGill
Brian Noel
Matt Pantera
Elia Pizarro
Josh Pueschel
Duane Rogers
Kevin Seabury
Ivan Segal
George Semanie, Jr.
Chris Service
Christina Shaw
Steve Simpson
Tim St. James
Geoff Stowell
John Taylor
Celia Viegas
Amy Weit
Kelly Wharton

Congratulations to Greg Poole and John Hernandez who were re-appointed Residence Managers.

Student Senate Spring Election Results

Senate President ..... Geoffrey Stowell

Senate Vice President ..... Sean Boucher

Senator at Large (two elected) ..... Jonathan Luke/Brian Bourker
Robert Scanlon/Christopher Hinkley

School of Arts and Sciences Representatives (two elected) ... Lisa Linnehan/Lisa Roy
Thea Martin/Amy Hoosick

School of Business Representatives (two elected) ..... Elia Pizarro/Becky Lauber
Vittorio Contabile/Anthony Pivero

School of Engineering Representative ..... Jeffrey Kraft/Jeff Monahan

Senior Class Representative ..... Betty Sexton/Brenda Trodler

Senior Class President ..... Celia Viegas

Senior Class Vice President ..... Anthony Pivero

Senior Class Treasurer ..... Brenda Trodler

Senior Class Secretary ..... Sharon Masson

Junior Class Representative ..... Kristin Knight/Krystopher Aurigemma

Junior Class President ..... Nara Mitchell

Junior Class Vice President ..... Jennifer Bonafede

Junior Class Treasurer ..... Jason Ferri

Junior Class Secretary ..... Kellianne Cudmore

Sophomore Class Representatives ..... Melissa Iacovacci/Jenel Longo

Sophomore Class President ..... Ryan Courtemanche

Sophomore Class Vice-President ..... Craig Nakashian

Sophomore Class Secretary ..... Germania Bookman

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world; indeed it is the only thing that ever has."

~ Margaret Mead

Get Your Golden Bear Here!

by Prufessur Henry Bazan

What do Penn State, UConn, and Western New England College have in common? Mascots! Penn State has the Nittany Lion, UConn the Husky, and WNEC the Golden Bear.

That is why Ned Schwartz, a graduate from Penn State, and Hank Bazan, a graduate of UConn, have worked hard to bring the Golden Bear on campus and model a smaller version of the bear for everyone to enjoy and purchase at WNEC.

The plaque in front of the Golden Bear reads as follows: "The college mascot, the Golden Bear, exemplifies the enthusiasm, strength, and pride of Western New England College. This statue, fashioned after the kodiak brown bear, which often weighs three quarters of a ton and towers nine feet when on hind legs, is the result of individual contributions and fund-raising efforts conducted between 1977-1987 by the football, management, and marketing clubs."

From 1987 until 1996, attempts were made to model an exact replica of the campus bear. Schwartz turned sculptor, students researched suppliers, and numerous models were made. The problem was making an exact model and marketing the bear at an affordable price.

A supplier was found in West Virginia, and a model was made. It took members of the Management Association to get the bear golden, paint the eyes, and put a finishing coat on the bear so that each bear is uniquely hand-painted. It is almost an exact miniature model of the Golden Bear outside the campus center, which represents the "spirit" of the campus.

It was decided to market the bear for $29.95 or $39.95 on a handsome wooden base. A deluxe pewter model is available for $89.95.

The goal is to get students, parents, and alumni to purchase the bear for pride, school spirit, and esprit-de-corps. It could also be given as a special award to athletes or a graduation gift to seniors.

One of the first recipients of the Golden Bear was Rodney Smith, a 1988 WNEC graduate, who won a Bronze medal in Greco Roman wrestling in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain.

If any profit is made, it will be used for scholarships. In the meantime, the Management Association hopes it can sell enough bears to reorder more in the short run.

Anyone interested in purchasing a bear should contact the School of Business, Bazan, or anyone in the Management Association.

Management Association students Amy Gogan, Tracy Hook, Heather Kenney, Bozena Kida, and Diane Bemier help to produce the mini Golden Bears.

Experience Culture Online

by Andrea Denise Higgins

Course registration has come and gone, but you may want to add a class to your schedule. Elementary French 101 and Intermediate French 203 are going to offer a world of travel, drama, and internet access beginning this fall.

Professor Frances Abrams, who has been teaching the French courses since 1987, has watched the French in Action series grow from cassette tapes and videocassettes to an on-line series complete with disks. "I hope that this will excite students and have them register for the class," she says.

French in Action is not your average language course. Abrams uses a hands-on approach to teaching and a goal to immerse the students into French culture. The students watch videos, act out skits, listen to music, experience French theater, and sample French food, such as baguettes and cheese. "I try to do anything I can to make it alive," she explains.

Abrams wants to prepare the students so they will be well-equipped to visit a French speaking culture. Alumni and local businessmen have observed the classes to prepare for traveling. Abrams explains that "it's hard to do you your own, but in-class work helps."

Abrams hopes that her students will be able to apply what they have learned in class during the spring of 1998. She is trying to have a college-sponsored trip to Paris approved for Spring Break. She says that this trip will encourage students and give them "the incentive to want to converse and learn."

The CJ Corner

by Christina DeGraff

The Criminal Justice Association, led by Dana Staples, has been very busy this semester! We have several events planned and would like to entice you to take part in them.

On Thursday, April 10, several members of the association are looking forward to having lunch and conversation with Mayor Michael Albano, Dr. Caprio, and several Criminal Justice faculty members. Albano's background includes Criminal Justice and Corrections.

On Tuesday, April 29, we have planned for the Massachusetts State Police K-9 unit to come and give a demonstration. The presentation will be at 12:30 on the grass that is located between Sleith and Herman. The dogs will perform variuus searches. If you nre interested in becoming involved in either K-9 training or becoming a K-9 officer, join us.

Several members of the association attended a week-long National Conference in Florida. The trip was a good way for Western New England College CJ students to network and learn how other institutions operate and what they uffer.

We would like to thank everyune who purchased Pie In Your Eye tickets. We look forward to planning next year's event.

We encourage thuse who are CJ majors, or those who are interested in the field, to join us for our next meeting on Thursday, April 17, at 1:00 p.m., in Sleith 105. Your input and support are appreciated.

Career Fair '97

Thursday,
April 10
10:00 a.m. ~ 3:00 p.m.

The Alumni Healthful Living Center

Sponsored by the Cooperating Colleges of Greater Springfield

Eating Disorders Support Group

Come join other women who are setting themselves free from Anorexia and Bulimia in a caring and supportive environment.

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Take back real control!

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for further details:
782-1221

Cash In On A Lifetime Opportunity!

by Erynn Schmidt

On Thursday, March 27, a panel discussion of experts talked about "Careers in Sales." It was tri-sponsored by Career and Human Resources, the Management Association and Marketing Association.

To be honest, I have certain reservations about salespeople, but once this discussion was complete many of my evil thoughts had disappeared. The panel consisted of four speakers who ranged in experiences and expertise.

The first speaker was Katherine Petrecca from the New England Blizzard. She spoke of her difficulty in choosing a career. It took her many tries to find what fit her best. Petrecca suggests taking an internship; she refers to that as an assistantship. This will only help you — you learn the business from the ground floor up.

Chris Clark from Pitney Bowes, Inc. spoke next. He believes sales is everything. You need to have excitement for the product you are selling—an attitude. It is best to know the product before you can actually market it.

Clark had some advice that everyone should take to heart: You need to be aggressive. If you want a job, go after it. Show you have passion and you won't take no for an answer. This is great for sales and any other job you are after.

He also spoke of the benefits from being a salesperson. You have freedom, you meet different people every day, and enjoy lots of satisfaction.

Some of the incentives involved with sales are, travel, you our out of the office (you don't have to sit behind a desk from 9 to 5), the money, and the opportunity to work at home. One last piece of advice from Clark—Be confident, be competitive, and, yes, your appearance does matter, so look professional.

Our third speaker was Maryjane Lemire from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care. Lemire made a comment that will stick with me for quite a while. "You've been is sales all your life. Ever since your first word. You've talked people into doing things for you." It's true. I really never thought of myself as a salesperson.

Why go into sales? Because it is the salespeople that make or break a company. Everything is driven by sales. It's not so much by sales but consulting.

Lemire also doesn't consider sales an entry-level position. With sales you can move above and beyond.

She also spoke of the benefits which include: sales is a portable job—you can bring it with you anywhere, you don't have to punch in, you create your own schedule, you meet with whomever you like, and it is flexible.

Next Lemire spoke of the incentives: awards of all types, trips, commissions, bonuses and, possibly, a company car. You have an unlimited potential to earn. Can you imagine a better job?

The last speaker was Ryan Flood, a recent Western New England College graduate. He suggests looking for the best company you want to work for. He advises to have confidence in the product you are selling. In his search for a job, he found that if you are aggressive, ask questions, and are willing to make the follow-up call, you will have luck in your pursuit. Flood said that selling keeps you busy—there's always something to do and it is fun.

In the discussion that followed, I found that it takes five to six months to decide whether sales is good for you. It takes a certain personality and work ethic to succeed. So, to all you seniors, good luck in your search for happiness; to juniors and sophomores, start to think about your internship or assistantship; and to freshmen it is never to early to visit Career and Human Resources, located on the second floor of the Campus Center. They are a valuable resource, so use them.

A career in sales may not sound glamourous to you, but it can put you on the road to success.

Students Rebuild the Future

by George Semanie, Jr.

PROJECT REBUILD

The Western New England College Campus Ministry is packing their bags and heading down to South Carolina for a week in April to help support a community that suffered the destruction of their church.

Revered O'Brian, Rabbi Gurland, Ann Guidi, and 21 students will be taking part in this national effort known as Project Rebuild. This is the largest college effort to rebuild the Rosemary Baptist Church.

The college's effort is the first in a series, running through the beginning of July, that are giving their time and strength to support the churches in South Carolina.

With the help of Student Senate and other fund raising activities, the cost of the trip has been significantly lowered.

"The students going to South Carolina will be enriched by their experience," said Gurland.

The Campaign to Rebuild
Rosemary Baptist Church

Rosemary Baptist Church
Barnwell County, S.C.

Built 1882
Burned 1996

Participants for Project Rebuild
April 11-18, 1997

Emily Alland	Michelle Hinojosa
Sarah Anderson	Staci Krueger
Eugene Angus	Laura Lebiedz
Jen Bonafede	Kerrie LeSuer
Amy Brancatelli	Richard Murphy
Jake Burgess	Courtney O'Connell
Rhonda Byrd	Janey O'Connell
Julie Calamaras	Sean Parker
Melanie Cenkus	Allison Schilke
Ryan Courtemanche	Jessica Steel
Christa Goodwin	Danielle Sullivan
Prof. Gosselin	Samantha Stoutenburg

News From D' Amour Library

We often tell bewildered patrons that we change everything here every 20 minutes. It is almost true! Our latest change is access to the Web version of various on-line databases available through our Library Home Page (http://libraries.wnec.edu). It means graphics and easy downloading, (even to your e-mail address) among other things.

What are those on-line databases?

* WILDPAC, our on-line catalog for one.
* Many periodical indexes—including those for arts and sciences, business, and engineering (available to the campus community through a log-on process).
* One of the entries under "Internet Resources" is "Information by Subject," which leads to databases appropriate to the subject majors here at Western New England College. For example, under Social Work is the choice SWAN, which leads to many resources in the field of social work.
* *Encyclopedia Brittanica* with hypertext links.
* The possibilities are endless. Take a look!

As of May 1 there will be further restrictions as to who can access on-line indexes in the library. They will be limited to the Western New England College students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Licensing agreements with vendors have made this a necessity.

If you would like a "tour" of the Home Page and the Internet, call the reference desk (x1655) to make an appointment or drop by. We would love to show you.

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College students, retirees, anyone to sell Good Humor ice cream from one of our vending trucks. Work outdoors this summer. Be your own boss. Routes available in your area. Earn $750-$950 weekly. Male or female. Apply now for routes that start this Spring and Summer. Call Monday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. only.

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the Westerner

Andrea D. Higgins
Editor-in-Chief

Contributing Writers:

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Professor Henry Bazan	Jesse Knowlin
Christina DeGraff	David O'Quinn
Professor Al Ingham	Erynn Schmidt

George Semanie, Jr.

Special thanks to Dr. Anthony Caprio, Dean Zern, and Joe Scaffida for their time, effort, and encouragement.

Students Celebrate Social Work Awareness Month

by Monique Asselin

March was Social Work Awareness Month. And to celebrate the junior social work class organized an on-campus clothing drive.

This was the first time that Social Work Awareness Month was recognized and celebrated by the students and staff on campus. We wanted not only to give something back to the community and help those that needed help, but we also wanted to educate peers and faculty just what it is we will be doing in our profession.

For the clothing drive, labeled boxes were put into each of the residence halls, flyers were posted, a banner was made, and email was sent to all of the faculty on campus. We not only wanted to collect unwanted clothing, but also unwanted hates, scarves, and mittens.

After completing the clothing drive, we plan to go to various Open Food pantries throughout Springfield, where a lot of homeless and poor citizens go, to distribute the clothes.

Social Workers are often automatically associated with he Department of Social Services (D.S.S.), but only about one-fourth of all child welfare cases are handled by professional Social workers. Social workers do many things, including providing family therapy and guidance for support groups, counseling individuals, and providing advocacy for those that aren't getting their voices heard. Those are just a few of the services that social workers provide in order to help others.

Junior Social Work Class of 1998

Internet Association Connects Campus

by Erynn Schmidt

A new club has hit campus—the Internet Association. The Internet Association will connect you to life and Western New England College and life on the World Wide Web.

As a member of this club you can learn Web Paging, what the internet can do for you, how to get connected from your dorm or home, take a trip to the Boston Computer Museum, access the cool sites, create a web site that represents you, and much more.

The first meeting, held on Tuesday, March 18 at 3:30, was a success. Eighteen interest students and four faculty showed up filled with ideas for this new and exciting club.

Two faculty members from the CIS department, Casey Storozuk and Jerzy Letkowski, have taken on the responsibility of faculty advisor. Both have extensive knowledge of the web and the tools that are needed to succeed there.

Storozuk and Letkowski are planning to give mini seminars when the club meets. Not only will they be lecturing, but outside speakers will be invited to share their wisdom.

It is only the beginning. This club is predicted to be one of the best at WNEC. The web is becoming a part of everyday life; not only in the classroom, but also in the working world. Why not learn about it?

Martial Arts Club

Get to know the WNEC Martial Arts Club family! We work on general conditioning, calisthenics, self-defense, form (kata), an sparring.

It may be late in the semester, but there is still time for you to check us out and see if you would be interested in joining in the fall.

Club meetings are Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in the HLC aerobics room. Anyone is welcome to sit in on a class, if you would just like to observe what is involved.

If you are interested in getting a great workout, learning self-defense, and forming some strong friendships, stop by or call Rod at 796-4344 for more information.

An Open Letter To . . . .

Western New England College Student Athletes

As the academic year draws to a close, so does the 96-97 sports campaign. Each and every athlete who has stepped onto the playing field, ran the court, or felt the mat deserves our commendation. Seniors bid farewell to a segment of their lives which has meant so much. Sophomore and Junior athletes look forward to carrying the leadership torch. Freshmen (perhaps my favorite group of all) are ready to move on to the next campaign with renewed enthusiasm and energy. It is not easy to be a student athlete. The demands are many, those of the fans, those of the professors, those of the family and friends, and those of the coaches.

As every athlete knows, there have been moments of frustration. Yet, I hope there have been an equal number of moments of personal satisfaction, when goals set have been achieved. Playing at the Division III level is indeed about personal development and playing for the love of the sport. Perhaps, this is competitive athletics at its finest. Regardless of wins and losses, regardless of the score in any particular contest, meet or match, I want you to feel proud of your representation.

In the end, it is your own sense of achievement, and it is your declaration of commitment that makes participation worthwhile. Playing as a Division III athlete is about heart. It is about dedication and commitment. It is about undaunted effort. It is about being part of a team. As you leave the playing field or court for the last time this semester, please take with you my admiration for the heart you have show, the effort you have made, and your recurrent spirit, which models the best in each and every one of us. Please take with you pride in having represented Western New England College.

Sincerely,

Theodore R. Zern

Theodore R. Zern
Dean of Freshman
and Transfer Students

Do You Know What To Do?

by Keith D. Marciniak

Sexual assault can occur anywhere on campus. If someone approached you and said that they were sexually assaulted, what would be your first reaction? The college has specific protocol for the Resident Advisors to follow, but what if you're not an R.A.? What if the person who came to you (that was assaulted) is a commuter? These questions along with a lot of others have been brought up in Senate, and we are taking this opportunity to address the issue.

The most important thing to remember in this type of situation is that the person came to you for help. It may sound very easy, but your job is to listen, reassure the individual that they are safe, and try to get the proper, trained staff to assist that person as soon as possible. Try to persuade the survivor not to shower, not to change their clothes, and not to use the bathroom. Performing any of these three tasks would result in the loss of evidence that may be collected in the future.

The next step would be to call Public Safety (the telephone number is listed below). Give them your name, location, telephone number, and explain your situation to them by stating that you are with a person who was sexually assaulted (the survivor's name does not have to be given over the phone if he or she does not wish). Public Safety will then contact one of it's four Rape Trained Investigators to assist you. The investigator will arrive in plain clothes and will take over the situation.

The investigator will survey the scene and offer suggestions to the survivor, such as medical attention, a rape testing kit, counseling services, a police report, and whatever support is needed thereafter. If the survivor chooses to obtain medical attention, the rape investigator will then go with the individual to Bay State Medical Center in order to have the proper medical assistance needed. If the individual wants, a rape kit/test can be administered at Bay State Medical Center. The survivor is able to bring whomever he/she wants to Bay State for emotional support.

After Bay State has come in contact with the survivor, the Springfield Police Department will be contacted and any evidence that is collected from the rape test/kit will go to the SPD. A police report will also be completed by the SPD for the future, in case charges are to go against the aggressor.

After the trip to Bay State is completed, the rape investigator will help with the set-up of any type of counseling service with the survivor. The investigator will then file a report with the Department of Public Safety, to be held for the future. The aggressor will also be contacted by the Rape Trained Investigator sometime during the investigation, but it is at their own discretion. The Dean of Students will then be notified of the incident and hearings may be set up thereafter.

If there are any questions about these issues, please call the Student Senate office at 782-1298. The emergency telephone number of Public Safety is 782-1411.

Campus Activities Board proudly presents

THRILLER!

SPRING WEEK '97

A Trip Back to the 80's!

Thriller!

by Jessica Steel

Spring is here, and the fun is near! Winter has ended, fun in the sun is beginning, and Spring Week is approaching fast. The theme is the 80's, and festivities such as musicians, caricatures, and frisbee art, will be appearing throughout the week of April 14. All events will be outside, and if there's a little rain, the fun will move to the HLC.

The special feature of the week will be Spring Fling, traditionally held on the Saturday after Spring Week. RHA and the Spring Week committee on CAB have been working hard to put this day together. The outdoor carnival will include food, music, air ball, a gladiator joust, an obstacle course, and much more.

There's no better way to enjoy the warm weather than by attending a few Spring Week functions. This celebration will be one you'll never forget, so make sure you enjoy the beginning of Spring with a bang—go to Spring Week festivities!

Monday, April 14
Hypnotist/Mentalist
MICHAEL ANTHONY
Dining Room A - 8:00 pm

Tuesday, April 15
CAB FAIR/ROLLERBLADE CLINIC
Gazebo - 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

BARRY DRAKES "80'S ROCK"
A Multi-media presentation about 80's Rock & Roll
Dining Room A - 8:00 pm

Wednesday, April 16
CAB Comedy presents
MICHAEL DEAN ESTER
Dining Room A - 8:00 pm

Thursday, April 17
WORLD GAME
HLC - 1:00 pm

Friday, April 18
"Fridays" presents
KARAOKE!
Snack Bar - 9:00 pm

Saturday, April 19
CAB & RHA present
SPRING FLING '97
The Tundra - 1:00 - 6:00 pm
(rain location - HLC)

Attend events and win some great prizes!

April 7, 1997

ARTS and ENTERTAINMENT

No Doubt About It

by Jesse Knowlin

Is it me or does most of the music we hear today lack originality and, for the most part, sound redundant? To anyone who feels this way, you can add Las Vegas' new female, R&B trio, 702 (Biv Ten Records) to the list.

It is with great regret that I inform urban listeners that we are presented with yet another girl group who has one member who sings all of the leads, and an album that consists of the same "girl is in love with boy" scenarios. The difference is the fact that these young ladies are teenagers, which explains the immature lyrics on their debut CD, "No Doubt."

The song "Round & Round" is a perfect example. The simple chorus line goes, "Turn me all around/Hear my heart pound/You got it going on/That's why I sing this song." The members of 702 even throw in a little of the Supremes' classic tune "Upside Down," which should have been left alone.

Unfortunately, there is nothing good that I can really say about this album as a whole. The phat beats that keep your head bopping, and the strong vocals of lead singer, KeMeelah, are the only factors that make this album worth listening to.

But, on the other hand, 702 has managed to release two gold (500,000 copies sold) singles for the up-tempo dance tune, "Steelo," (which means "style"), and the soulful ballad "Get It Together."

Aside from these two hits, let me say that the album does have is shining moments. There is the title track, "No Doubt," which has a thumping beat and showcases 702 vocally at their best. You could even say that this is the sequel to "Steelo."

Another potential hit includes the last, but best, song on the album—the sensual, mellow ballad, "Finding My Way." It is on this track that this trio surpass the typical girl group persona and go beyond the "boy meets girl" phase as well. If the entire album went in this direction, "No Doubt" would have probably been a collector's item.

Overall, I personally don't think that the members of 702 lack talent. If that were the case, they probably wouldn't have a record deal. However, with a competitive music industry, such as this, longevity doesn't seem to be in 702's future unless they mature lyrically, come up with innovative material, and stand out from the rest of the other duplicated female trios flooding the music industry today. There is surely no doubt about that.

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I Could Fall in Love with *Selenas*

by David O'Quinn

No, "Selenas" is not a typo, but a tribute to just one of the many humorous parts of "Selena," the feel good movie celebrating the rise of Selena Quintanilla-Perez from her days as a squeaky-voiced six-year-old, through her adolescent years where she began blossoming as a young lady in love, to the sad murder of a woman on the brink of success. Selena's father, Abraham Quintanilla, was on the of Executive Producers for this Warner Brothers film that reveals personal stories in a way that her fans, old and new, did not know.

The acting is phenomenal. Edward James Olmos, as Selena's domineering father, was the perfect merge of a character and an actor since Cuba Gooding, Jr.'s Oscar-winning role as Rod Tidwell in "Jerry Maguire." As the patriarch of the Quintanilla clan, he provided Jennifer Lopez, who assumed the role of Selena, with the best acting partner in the movie. It was obvious that Lopez learned a lot from their first scene.

Equally notable was the standout performance of Jon Seda as Chris Perez, Selena's husband. He was the silent one, but when he came onto the screen there was no one else to be noticed. His portrayal of the quiet, soft-spoken man of few words broke new ground in his acting. His previous roles, where he played "typical Hispanic" characters, were thrown out the window as he tackled this part. He met with the real Chris Perez to learn the guitar.

I predict that this movie will be nominated for Best Picture at next year's Oscars (Academy voters will recognize a story about a family's struggle to live the American dream—the Quintanillas were Texans who spoke English after all). Olmos, who was nominated previously for his role as a teacher in "Stand and Deliver," is a shoe-in for the Academy's vote. Lopez and Seda might also be nominated for Best Actress and Bets Supporting Actor, respectively, but they will be more hopeful at the Golden Globes in their categories (where I am sure this movie will clean house).

A date movie. A chick movie. A movie in the same respect as "Forrest Gump." "Selena" will no only steal your heart, but inspire you (while singing all of her songs in your head).

Inquiring Fans Would Like to Know . . . .

by Jesse Knuwlin

1. When is Mariah Carey going to admit that her marriage to Sony CEO, Tommy Motolla, isn't at all a bowl of peaches and cream?
2. Why does Toni Braxton and her sisters (also known as The Braxtons) remind us of Cinderella and her ugly stepsisters?
3. Does the "Bump and Grind" king, R. Kelly, truly believe that he is a born again Christian? But then again, he believes that he can fly, so there's no telling what he thinks anymore.
5. If mega-star Michael Joseph Jackson wanted to name his son after himself, why did he name the baby Prince Michael Jackson II?
6. And speaking of Jackson, wonder if he will have this child undergo as much plastic surgery as he did?
7. What does Foxy Brown's parents think about her raunchiness and explicit lyrics? Better yet, what kind of morals did they teach this 17-year-old rapper?
8. What coaxed Tisha Campbell ("Gina") into returning to the Fox television sitcom "Martin?" Must be the money.
9. Will Arsenio Hall's new comedy show on ABC will be as successful as his now defunct talk show? Not!
10. Why wasn't the box office hit "Set It Off" nominated for an Oscar?
11. How did eccentric basketball player Dennis Rodman get teamed up with Jean-Claude Van Damme in the upcoming action flick "Double Team?"
12. How can Columbia Pictures "Anaconda" (the upcoming thriller about a giant killer snake) be as scary as they say if it's only rated PG-13?
13. What's the deal with the murder of two of rap's greatest lyricists, Tupac Shakur (1971-1996) and The Notorious B.I.G (1972-1997)?
14. And why do both rappers talk [illegible] de[illegible] last [illegible]?
15. [illegible]

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Campus Activities Board and Student Senate
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

8:00 PM

ALUMNI HEALTHFUL LIVING CENTER

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April 14-18
$7.00 WNEC Full Time Undergraduate Students
Limit 4 per student with valid WNEC I.D.

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Limit 2 per person with valid WNEC I.D.

April 21-25 *(if available)*
Same as above
$15.00 CCGS Students
Limit 2 per person with valid I.D.

April 30 - At the door *(if available)*
All Tickets $15.00

Doors will open at 7:00 pm • No admittance after 9:00 pm

EDITORIALS April 7, 1997

Editorial Policies

- Editorials and Letters to the Editor should be submitted to the Publications Office and should include author's name, address and phone number. If you wish to remain anonymous, indicate reason with submission.
- The opinions here do not necessarily represent the Westerner, its staff, or Western New England College.
- All quotes and stories must be legitimate (the Westerner staff reserves the right to contact those quoted to ensure authenticity.
- The Westerner staff reserves the right to withhold editorials due to controversial material.
- The Westerner strives to uphold libel laws and produce integrity.

Climbing Mt. Washington

From a Different Point of View

Mt. Washington is a formidable obstacle that patiently waits for our group to begin ascent. As we gear up, the anticipation of the climb fills us with excitement. Our climb will take us ten hours to complete, and will take us into some of the most rugged country in the Northeast.

We arrive at the headwall of Tuckerman's Ravine two and a half hours into the climb—an ominous site at 1,400 feet in height. As I begin to ascent, I tell myself to "be patient finding footholds." Any mistake on the headwall could lead to serious injury.

D' Amour Library's handicap ramp resembles this climb. One winter morning I needed to access the library and had to precariously ascent the icy slope. This mundane walk has became a frightening experience.

Due to surgery I was unable to wear my prosthesis for the first half of the semester and was too aware of my physical inadequacies as I slowly made my way around the campus. Ice became rocks to scramble across, and stairs become ledges to maneuver over.

At times these challenges seemed overwhelming, but, as a disabled person, I have learned patience in finding footholds in my life.

As a disabled person I lead a dual life. With my prosthesis on, I can conquer a mountain. But with it off, I find it difficult to climb a stair.

Whether climbing Mt. Washington or struggling up a ramp, I accomplish my goals by proceeding one step at a time.

Gary

Do Unto Others, and They Shall Do Unto You

Your ten-year-old brother, who has made you his idol, is walking down the hall with a group of his friends, when these older kids come by and knock his soul and body from under him. While he screams for help, it falls on the deaf ears of teachers and friends, who are more concerned with going to class on time.

Now imagine your baby brother, who is about to celebrate his twentieth birthday in two days, walking back from his friend's dorm when he is held up at gunpoint. His pleas for help are met by the closing of shades. What would you feel being his brother?

As we all know, and just in case some do not know, this is our school's motto. Although it is a great motto, students on our campus are crying out for our help while being robbed, and we are closing the shades on them.

Or better still, we are telling one another that we hate the stereotyping and prejudice that is going on, but we are only adding to it when we see people completely different from ourselves and snicker or whisper.

Is this the behavior of adults entering the "real world?" Is it possible to have a culture shock in the town you were born in? It is if you come onto a college campus.

The shades that were closed on that unfortunate victim were only one example of how different this campus is from the rest of the country. For example, movie star Kevin Costner put out a brush fire about to set ablaze a home last year.

It amazes me to see people walking around campus with their cliques (and feeling more superior to others), looking down on people who are handicapped, overweight, or gay (but they don't really know if they are), and girls their buddies have used the night before and expecting her to manage on her own when it turns out she's with child. Is this college or high school?

How much of what we learn in the college classroom will we actually retain? No answer? Okay, how much of what we learn in the college social setting will we retain? There is a definite answer to this one—everything!

We take the knowledge of what we learn in the class we had the most fun in and use that as a guide to drive us in our new full-time job when we graduate. But we learn who to trust, party with, and date from the experiences we had living in Gateway, hanging out with the crew at Mory's or Cocomos, falling in love, and being in the same club as people we know.

As freshmen, we try to find out who is a popular upper classman that we can latch onto because we are still in that high school mode of popularity. But the sad this is that this feeling doesn't leave us as we grow older and gain more experience.

When we attain the popularity we wish to have, we take all the things, and people, who have been there for us from the beginning and set them free. Their secrets and personal battles that they shared with us, we tell. What have we got to lose? Our self-dignity is the only thing I can see gone in this situation, with many things stemming from self-dignity.

The thought of not being safe in a town I am very familiar with is a reality I am being forced to face. But feeling I cannot be secure at the place I am getting my education from (on how to handle myself in the "real world") is even more frightening.

Will one of these racist, homophobic, self-involved, peers be my boss when I graduate? I really hope not. The world's work place is filled with blacks, Hispanics, Asians, homosexuals, bisexuals, overweight, handicapped, and every other labelled human being I can think of.

The purpose of me writing my opinion here is that I have never been the type of person people cannot ask the truth from, or the type of person who will "fluff up" a lie to make someone feel better. Nor am I an issue-oriented person, or a person who is practicing my religion. But what I do believe is that "what goes around will eventually come around."

I don't believe anyone on Earth can speak your or my God's mind. You cannot convince me that He/She will condemn a person for their color, sexual preference, occupation, and if you are pro-choice or not.

I do know whatever God you worship, we are all in this world together. We are all brothers an sisters. No matter how corny that sounds, it is true. If you turn away helping that one individual, you are starting the first link in a long chain of badness that will eventually find its way back to you.

Culture is more than a way of living for a nation or country. I feel that we have our own culture on this campus. I am not saying there is anything wrong with wanting to dress nice all the time (I fashion myself in Tommy Hilfinger occasionally), but to see people putting others down to bring yourself up is flat out wrong. How can we slight others an hide our own insecurities?

Who in our culture says who is to be made fun of, and who is to be spared? My friend asked me the other day, "Why are the people who are going to tanning sessions to get darker, the ones who are the most prejudice?"

To paraphrase Martin Luther King, Jr., "Why do we judge people by the color of their skin and not the content of their character?"

David O'Quinn

My Roommate is driving me crazy!

Problems with your roommate or a friend?
Want to reconcile a dispute?

Perhaps it's time to try

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Alcohol and Drugs: Trends and Patterns

A Look at Western New England College Students and their Habits

by Professor Al Ingham

Are college students on the campus of Western New England College falling prey to alcohol and drug use? This is an interesting question that is being reviewed by members of the faculty, staff and student body right now.

Looking out from the WNEC community towards Springfield, Worcester, and other college and university campuses across this nation, I wonder if we at WNEC have as serious a problem with alcohol and drugs as other communities?

According to a small, un-scientific survey recently conducted by this author, we do. And the college has begun to look into it.

Like any organization that has the responsibility of nurturing young people, the college is in the process of making policies regarding the welfare of all students on the WNEC campus. Keep in mind, that the college has the responsibility to protect all students from incidents stemming from misuse or abuse of any substance. The policies must be clear: they must specifically emphasize what coarse of action will be taken by the institution if a minor (under 21 years) is caught drinking on campus or in their dorm room. The policy will also include the use of all illegal drugs on campus.

The college should not send out mixed messages or allow individuals who have the responsibility to watch over the student work by a double standard. There must be a legalistic approach to prevent the use of alcohol by minors and use of illegal drugs cannot be tolerated on the campus.

If an individual does use a substance is caught by Public Safety or is reported by residential staff, he/she should be held accountable for his/her action. However, the college must develop and provide a reasonable method of punishment or treatment for the student who violates the rules.

Why is this article necessary? The following facts will help you to decide the issue.

FACTS:

In Springfield District Court there were a total of 12,388 drug cases; narcotic charges accounted for 2,459. Worcester District Court totaled 13,537 cases: narcotic charges amounted to 2,918, (Source: *Massachusetts Trial Court* 1995).

According to United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics* for 1995, there were 1,384,400 drug abuse violations, 713,200 people arrested for drunkenness, 541,800 liquor violations and 1,384,600 arrests for driving under the influence.

In viewing college age students (17-23) in the general population by offense and age in the United States in 1994, there were 312,430 drug related arrests, 166,885 arrests for operating under the influence, 236,088 for liquor law violations and 86,790 arrests for drunkenness.

Comparing the offense charged and of all age groups, in the United States in 1985 and 1994, there was a significant increase in drug arrests, up 60.7%, a slight increase in liquor laws violation, 0.3%, decrease in drunkenness, -30.2%, and driving under the influence, -22.2%.

Throughout the country the arrest rate on ten larger university campuses has risen 18% for drug violations, according to the annual survey of campus crime by *The Chronicle of Higher Education.*

There were 6,797 arrests for drug violation in 1995, up from 5,764 the previous year. The largest increase was reported at Northern Arizona University with 133 drug arrests in the 1995-96 academic year. Ten other institutions reported more than 100 drug arrests In 1995.

While the survey highlights the rise in drug arrests, college health specialists said alcohol abuse posed a greater problem. The survey found 15,208 arrests for liquor-law violation, up from 15,027.

According to Steve Lustig, executive director of University Health Services at the University of California at Berkeley, "Almost all of the sexual assaults here last year were alcohol-related."

In a recent unofficial, non-scientific survey of 72 students, conducted by instructor Al Ingham, WNEC students listed substances (personal knowledge, no hearsay) being used by other students on campus.

The surveys strengthen the notion that underage drinking is a problem on the campus and that marijuana usage is on the rise. The survey also indicates that certain WNEC students are involved in experimenting, using or abusing hallucinogens, cocaine (crack), stimulants, depressants, inhalants and heroin.

Those students who participated in the survey were requested to list the substances that they know are being used by friends on campus and at home. The list includes (based on ranking):

Marijuana: 69 out of 72 students listed marijuana as the number one drug.
Alcohol: 62 out of 72 students listed alcohol, including wine, beer and liquor.
Mushroom: 23 out of 72 students
Acid (LSD): 22 out of 72 students.
Cocaine: 18 out of 72 students.
Steroids: 7 out of 72 students.
Heroin: 7 out of 72 students.
Other drugs listed by the students were speed, ecstasy, crack, percocet, valium, ritalin and PCP.

The students were also asked to list the drugs that are being used by students on the campus . The list includes (according to ranking):

Marijuana: 67 out of 72.
Alcohol: 64 out of 72.
Acid (LSD): 37 out of 72.
Cocaine: 35 out of 72.
Mushrooms: 34 out of 72.
Steroids: 14 out of 72.
Heroin: 8 out of 72.
Ritalin: 5 out of 72.
Speed: 5 out of 72.
Crack: 3 out of 72.
Nitrous Oxide: 3 out of 72.
Valium: 3 out of 72.
Barbiturates: 3 out of 72.
Mescaline: 2 out of 72.
Muscle Relaxants: 2 out of 72.
Ecstasy: 2 out of 72.
Codeine: 1 out of 72.

In sum, five classes of illicitly used drugs which have had an impact on high school and college students are marijuana, cocaine, stimulants, LSD and inhalants (see Table 1).

What can be done to prevent WNEC students from failing victim to potential alcohol and drug abuse? Drop me a line. Al Ingham, Box 2126.

Table 1

	1993 High School Seniors Student Use	1993 College Students Student Use	1997 WNEC* Student Use/Knowledge	
Marijuana	26%	2B%	?	93%
Cocaine	3%	3%	?	53%
Slin-ulanls	8%	4%	?	17%
LSD	7%	5%	?	51%
Inhalants	7%	4%	?	4%

* Knowledge of specific drugs on campus, nol an actually measurement of drug use. However, there is a potentially high risk of influencing students lo use illicit drugs.

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Westerner

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Western New England College

Pre-Inaugural Celebration

to honor the campus community
and Dr. Anthony S. Caprio

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Arts and Entertainment, pages 12-14

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October 6, 1997

the Westerner

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 43 / Issue 2

Home Sweet Homecoming

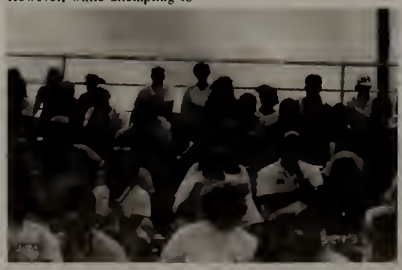
by David Weinberg

On homecoming weekend, the Golden Bears of Western New England College hosted the Beavers of M.I.T. The Beavers have a commanding 7-1 record over WNEC the eight times the two teams have gone head-to-head. However, the Bears were truly *Golden* on this day as they defeated the Beavers 25-10.

M.I.T., whose record dropped to 1-1, took a 3-0 lead halfway through the first quarter on a 22-yard filed goal by Jamie Sarahia. Two minutes later, the Beavers improved their lead to 10-0 when Daniel Bush picked up a fumble recovery "issued" by quarterback John Mancuso.

The Golden Bears, who improved their record to 1-1, scored on their initial possession of the third quarter. WNEC produced an impressive 67-yard drive on 13 plays. This drive was highlighted by Mancuso's 11-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Mike Roach. However, while attempting to make the ensuing conversion kick, M.I.T. blocked the ball. Fortunately, the Golden Bears were able to obtain the two points on the play, when freshman Lucas Walsh retrieved the loose ball and was able to successfully complete a TD pass to freshman Scott Gould.

In the fourth quarter, the Golden Bears scored 17 consecutive points. WNEC took an 11-10 lead over M.I.T. after linebacker Eric DeFazio fell on a costly fumble by Beavers quarterback Scott Blackburn. After the ensuing kick-off, Blackburn's pass was intercepted by safety Pete Sellazo. Then, Sellazo ran 40-yards unscathed to the opposing team's end zone for a touchdown. With 4:39 remaining in the game, John Mancuso put the game out of reach for the Beavers, when he launched a 46-yard touchdown pass to Mike Roach. This assured the Golden Bears of a great homecoming, as the team was triumphant over the Beavers of M.I.T. by a final score of 25-10.



Spectators enjoy the Homecoming victory.

Photo by Christopher Service

Dr. Caprio Returns to WNEK

by Anne-Marie Gravel

Dr. Anthony Caprio, President of Western New England College announced on Tuesday, September 9, in an on-air interview with the staff of WNEK, that a strategic plan will be the "new directions for Western New England College."

According to Caprio, the goal of the strategic plan is: "to begin a process whereby the college, and various members of the college faculty, staff and students, will talk about what the opportunities are for the school," what its strengths and weaknesses are, what its opportunities and threats consist of, and how the college is going to recognize "where we are going to go, and where we are going to be in the next ten years."

Along with this new strategic plan to guide the college in its campus improvements and fund-raising activities, Caprio also stated it was time for the college to rewrite its mission statement. Caprio said the strategic plan will help us learn "what we're all about," as an institution. Our new mission statement will show "...we're updated and focused on who we are and what we've become as a college."

Caprio discussed many of the changes that occurred over the summer months to improve student life: mailboxes for commuters, the renovation of Hampden Hall, the hiring of new faculty members, and implementation of new and improved safety features around campus.

Dr. Anthony Caprio poses with the WNEK staff.

When questioned about the possibility of on-campus fraternities and sororities, Caprio remarked that they "use a lot of energy that isn't productive for college life," and this is an area "that needs to be explored and talked about more if students are interested."

The fate of Rivers Gym was also examined Tuesday night. Currently the gym now houses the Alumni and Advancement offices, while the core of the building still remains unused. When questioned if the building will be saved soon, Caprio implied that there is nothing definite happening at the moment, but he would like to "make it a more student-focused meeting place," with the possibility of lectures, dances, and concerts being held.

In addition to being pleased with the physical improvements on campus, Caprio confirmed how pleased he was with the performance of last year's freshman and congratulated them on their induction into the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society at the Fall Convocation Ceremony that was held on Sunday August 31.

Reflecting on the year since his inauguration, Caprio mentioned, "It's almost hard to believe that it's already been a year. I've come to know the place very well. I feel comfortable here..."

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NEWS

October 6, 1997

Don't miss the next Westerner Deadline:

Friday, October 17th

News Articles (campus or local), Club Advertisements and Updates, Arts and Entertainment Reviews, Sports Reviews, Photographs, Classifieds, Editorials, or questions for Marilyn.

The issue will be published the first week of November!

the Westerner

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The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

Homecoming '97

A Celebration of Friends, Memories, and Excellence

Homecoming, Saturday, September 20, was a busy day for all attending.

The morning started early for alumni attending the Annual Alumni Association Meeting. This year the Association presented two Outstanding Service Awards to Michael J. Susco '70 and Patricia J. Serafino '77 for their tireless efforts to the Association, the College, and the Community.

The meeting was focused around the goals and objectives planned for the 1997-98 year and those accomplished in the 1996-97 year.

The Association Executive Board will consist of: Michael Serafino '77 as president, Susco as vice president, Amy Goulet '88 as secretary, Alfred LaRiviere '51/H '95 as administrative coordinator, and Neville Bogle '75/G '81, Kim Mac Leod '73, and Peter Stone '70/G'78 members-at-large.

At the Annual Alumni Awards Breakfast, the Association and the College community celebrated the Alumnus of the Year, Michael Serafino and the 1997 Skookum Award recipient.

The Skookum Award is given out annually to current seniors for their excellence in activities centered around academia, athletics, extracurricular activities, and commitment to the community.

This year the Skookum Award Committee, Christinie Soverow '85, chair, Youssef Fadel G'87, Liz Cleaves '96, Dean Ted Zern, and Andrea Saari '96 awarded the Skookum Award to the following students: Kelly Cossaboom, Heather Croughwell, Kelly Dwyer, Denise Flanigan, Anne-Marie Gravel, Sara Grunin, Andrea Higgins, Erin Maffucci, Geoffrey Stowell, Kelly Trombley, Peter Tseperkas, and David Zawacki.

The Royal Skookum was presented to Desiree Croteau and Celia Viegas, and the Grand Skookum Award was presented to Sarah Anderson. The Alumni Association would like to congratulate all of the recipients.

The rest of the day was filled with special luncheons, including the Fall Reunion for the Classes of 1922 through 1962, a multicultural luncheon, a School of Business reception, and a special reunion for the Class of 1962 Mechanical Engineers.

Pictured at tha right, the 1997 Skookum Award Recipients; to the left, Dr. Caprio poses with students at the Homecoming football game.

Campus Events October 1997

9th--Freshman Focus Program
"Wben No Means NO"
7:00 p.m.
AHLC
Open to All

10th--Fridays

11-14th--Fall Recess

17th--Fridays
Sponsored by U&Me
(Latin Fiesta)

17-18th--Outing Club Hiking/Camping

19-25th--Alcohol Awareness Week

20th--24th--Long Sleeve T-Shirt Sale

22nd--Father Grizone (Lecture)

24th--Fridays
Sponsored by The Review of Art and Literature

27-31st--Freak Week

27th--CAB Film, "Scream"
S100
7:00 p.m.

28th--Emerging Leader Program
12:30-2:00 p.m.

Freshman Focus
"Health and Intimacy"
S100
7:00 p.m.
Open to All

30th--Emerging Leader Program
12:30-2:00 p.m.

Halloween Eve Monster Bash
Sponsored by the Student Media
8-11:00 p.m.
Dining Room A

31st--Fridays
Sponsored by CAB

*****NOTE: All Events are Subject to Change. *****

Student Patrol Program

Beginning its Third Year of Service to the College Community

In the Fall of 1995 the Director of Public Safety Gary B. Barnes initiated the Student Patrol program at Western New England College.

Having been directly involved with similar programs at other colleges, he recognized the value of employing students to assist the uniformed campus police in providing a safe learning environment for the campus community.

Barnes realized there were many students on campus majoring in Criminal Justice and he knew that the Student Patrol program would provide a truly unique opportunity for them to gain firsthand experience in the field of Public Safety in the campus environment.

The Student Patrol program is not by any means limited to Criminal Justice majors however.

Five members of the 1996-97 Student Patrol. Seated in center is Student Patrol Supervisor, Craig Gardner, who is now a Vermont State Trooper.

The goal of this program is also intended to involve students who have a sincere desire to contribute in the promotion of a closer and safer campus environment.

The Student Patrol unit presently consists of three Student Patrol supervisors and nine Student Patrollers.

All members of the Student Patrol must undergo training sessions that instruct them as to their responsibilities and limitations while on patrol. Their training further includes certification in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

The Student Patrol is presently operational Wednesday through Saturday evenings from 8:00 pm to 12:00 midnight. Two person foot patrols cover the campus grounds during that time. They are in direct contact with Public Safety at all times while on patrol. Their ability to be in more places on campus, more frequently than the uniformed officers could possibly be (simply because of their numbers) has already proven the

continued on page 7

Public Safety Awareness Week

The month of October in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is devoted to:

1. Crime Prevention Month
2. Alcohol Awareness Month
3. Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Department of Public Safety is cognizant of the importance of these areas and has declared October 6 through October 10 as Public Safety Awareness Week. During this week, these three issues will be focused on by the Department of Public Safety.

Throughout the week there will be various booths at the Campus Center promoting Public Safety.

Monday, October 6
Bike Patrol

Tuesday, October 7
Emergency Medical Technicians

Wednesdny, October 8
Alcohol Awareness Day

Thursday, October 9
Student Patrol

Friday, October 10
RAD Program

There will be a raffle for the popular "Club" to protect your car and movie passes for two. There will also be a group banner/bulletin board contest for Alcohol Awareness to be judged on Wednesday, October 8. The winners will receive a free pizza party from Public Safety. Public Safety will offer courses for the entire community with sign up sheets at the variuus booths throughout the week.

There will be daily E-Mail safety tips as well as table tips on safety in the student room.

The Data Board in the mall will also display safety tips.

Last, but not least, during the same week, a similar two-day program will be jointly spunsored by the Law School and Public Safety.

As you can see, we are attempting to reach our community to develop a sense of safety and caring. Put this week on your calendar.

WNEK 105.1 Fall DJ On-Air Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Saturday	Sunday
10am-12pm						9am-11am	Brian B. Alternative	Steve B. Alternative
12pm-2pm		Jason N. R&B	Cicely P. News	Nick & Den Urban	Jarod C Urban	11am-1pm	DeWayne T. Jazz	Josh B. Loud Rock
2pm-4pm	David V. Alternative	Kyle S. Alternative	Ben B. Loud Rock	Becky & Cindy Alternative	Rob C. Loud Rock	1pm-3pm	Wesley & Bram Loud Rock	Joe D. Loud Rock
4pm-6pm	Lupa Alternative	Paul P. Alternative	Lorlann F. Loud Rock	Jae & Buffy Urban	Meg & Allan Alternative	3pm-5pm	Jarrod & Andy Loud Rock	Jason J. Alternative
6pm-8pm	Heather M. Alternative	Rob,Chris,Corey Loud Rock	Brian N. Loud Rock	Michelle S. Urban	Lila W. Alternative	5pm-7pm	Andy N. Urban	Tom R. Alternative
8pm-10pm	Stephanie F. Alternative	Paul F. Loud Rock	Chuck C. Urban	Flip B. Alternative	Cliff & Andrew Urban	7pm-9pm	Tong V. Urban	Brandon & Matt Alternative
10pm-12am	Mike B. Alternative	Shannon P. Loud Rock	Harley & Scott Loud Rock	Lisa & Cully Alternative	Bill B. Alternative	9pm-11pm	Nick W. Loud Rock	Kristen D. Loud Rock

A Tropical Paradise in Costa Rica

by Professor Nancy Hoar

When I heard that the World Communication Association would be meeting in Costa Rica, I thought: jungles, birds, flowers, snakes, civil unrest, water that might not be drinkable, and the dinosaurs of *Jurassic Park*. I assumed that I would have to get so many inoculations that I wouldn't be able to lift my arms. Not! Well at lest partially not.

After some initial homework and after spending a week and a half in Costa Rica, I heartily recommend it for a vacation. Granted, I spent most of the first week in the hotel - after all, I was there to attend a professional meeting—but I did get out and around.

First, there really are jungles, and birds, and flowers, and snakes. Some of the jungles are rain forests; these are on the coasts. Some are cloud forests; these, of course, are in the mountains. Though both receive much more rainfall than most of us are accustomed to, I preferred the cloud forests because they were cooler. In the 80's instead of the 90's. Both are humid that nothing really dries, including your hair, unless you blow-dry it.

In these rain forests and cloud forests there are many, many birds. One of the most colorful is the toucan, which the Costa Ricans call the "Fruit Loop Bird." (If you wonder why, just take a stroll down the cereal aisle of your local supermarket.) In fact, if you enjoy birds, Costa Rica should be on your travel list. Eight hundred and fifty species of birds live in the rains forests and cloud forests.

Costa Rica is also a country of flowers. I was surprised to see several plants that I have struggled to grow as houseplants thriving and growing so large that at first I didn't recognize these robust, colorful giants as the relatives of the tentative, spindly slow growers in my living room. The secret of their success is lots and lots of rain and year round growing conditions, since it never snows in Costa Rica and it never freezes - even in the mountains, which can be as tall as 14,000 feet. The national flower is the orchid, and they grow everywhere.

What about the snakes? Yes, indeed, there are snakes. One hundred thirty-seven varieties, though only 18 kinds are poisonous. One is the eyelash viper. I had seen eyelash vipers in the San Diego Zoo, with a good inch of glass between me and the snake. I saw two in the cloud forest. One was sleeping in a shrub next to the Gift Shop. The park ranger called our attention to it saying that it had been in the shrub for almost a week, probably drowsing and digesting a meal (most likely a frog). He suggested that we not disturb it because eyelash vipers can jump a distance equal to their length. This one was about 18 to 20 inches long, so I took a respectful backward step.

I saw a second, slightly larger one in a large bush where we caught the cart to go back to our bus. Someone had written on loose-leaf notebook paper "snake" with an arrow pointing to the sleeping snake. Again, I looked, but not too closely.

The only other poisonous snake I saw was (thank goodness) in a jar of alcohol. It was the dreaded fer-de-lance. One of the most aggressive snakes in the world. Most snakes try to get away from you. This one tries to get you if you come too close to its resting place.

Well, the jungles, birds, flowers, and snakes were there, as I had first assumed. What about the civil unrest, the undrinkable water, the inoculations, and the dinosaurs?

The last civil unrest was in 1948 when an almost bloodless revolution brought "Pepe" Figueres to the presidency. One of his first acts was to abolish the army. Costa Rica has no army, no navy, and no air force. This may come as a surprise to aficionados of *Jurassic Park* since it concludes with the Costa Rican Air Force bombing the dinosaurs out of the 20th Century. Costa Rica is a peaceful country and is often called the Switzerland of Latin America.

Well, what about the undrinkable water? There was only one place where we were advised not to drink tap water. It was at the isolated dock at the end uf a narrow dirt road through an endless banana plantation where we boarded the boat to go to Tortuguero National Park.

This is not to say that everyone, no matter where they live, has water that we would consider drinkable. But most people do, certainly in the cities and tourist areas.

What about the dreaded inoculations? I talked to people who had been there before and decided I didn't need them. No one in our group got inoculated either, and none of us have had any problems.

Finally, what about the dinosaurs? No dinosaurs. But as you make the three hour journey by boat to Mawamba Lodge in Tortuguero National Park (no roads), you are surrounded by jungle. Jungle so dense that you cant' see into it. You can see only the plants that fringe the water and the few that tower above the others. If there were dinosaurs, they certainly could live in Tortuguero and go undiscovered.

There is much more to do in Costa Rica than I could manage to do.

There are volcanoes - three rather active ones - with hot springs, boiling mud, and other geological features that make volcanoes so interesting.

There is white water rafting through rain forests.

There are beaches. The back of our lodge was less than a minute's walk from the Caribbean and the front of it was on many of the many rivers that serve as reads in Tortuguero.

Swimming was discouraged in the river (caimans and machacas - cousins to the piranha) and the Ocean (sharks, barracudas, jellyfish, and undertow). The good swimming and surfing beaches are on the Pacific side of Costa Rica, not the Caribbean. My guess is that the beaches of the Guanacaste Coast would be worth looking into for spring break.

One of the most outstanding features of Costa Rica is the Costa Ricans, or Ticos as they call themselves. The nickname come from an aspect of Costa Rican Spanish that is different from the Spanish of the rest of Latin America.

There are 3.3 million Costa Ricans. Their standard of living, while not quite as high as that of middle class Americans, far surpasses the standard of living in Central America and in much of South America.

Because they don't have military expenses (no army, no navy, no air force), they have money for schools (93% literacy rate), hospitals (some of the finest in Latin America), and homes.

Many urban Costa Ricans speak English. Many of these have spent some time in the United States. For example, one of our tour guides had a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin (natural history) and the man who owned the shop were we bought many of our presents for friends and family had taught white water kayaking and sea kayaking at Hampshire College.

Even thought you don't have to speak Spanish to vacation in Costa Rica, it is a good idea to have a few phrases on hand. Numbers are useful if you are shopping; and if you are shopping for clothing, it is helpful to know colors. Being able to say "please," "thank you," "excuse me," and "hello" are friendly gestures that bring warm smiles.

Even attempts that aren't accurate are appreciated. For example, one of our colleagues ordered ice cubes for his pancakes (he thought he was ordering honey). His friend, who really enjoyed the fried fish served family style, asked for more swimming pool (he thought he was asking for more fish). These efforts merited very big smiles from our Costa Rican waiters (who probably exploded in laughter once they were in the kitchen).

I wisb I had been able to see more of Costa Rica. It is an enchanting country. If you would like to know more about Costa Rica, you can read the *Tico Times* on the Web. It is a weekly newspaper published in English, and the site is updated every Friday. The address is: www.ticotimes.co.cr.

Fall Gathering

At the end of September, student leaders, faculty, staff, administration, and trustees gathered for the annual Fall Gathering. Below are some photos from the evening.

Photos by Anne-Marie Gravel

Golden Bear Classifieds

Announcements

Ever been to a coffee house/ literary reading? No! Well, come to **Friday's** on 10/24. Free refreshments, gifts, and pure, raw, unbridled talent. Sponsored by *The Review of Art and Literature.*

Come join the fun! *The Review* will be participating in a **POETRY SLAM 10/8**, Westfield State college, at 6:00pm. Be a supporter. Transportation provided. **Call Anne-Marie @ 796-9913** for more information.

Artists, crafters, painters, drawers, people with talent, people without talent, photographers, and bored people. Come to the Arts & Crafts room to have a good time.

Found

Did you lose a pair of glasses? A watch? An IMSG card? A copy Card? A YMCA member card? If so, please **visit the Info Booth.**

For Sale

19' RCA TV, Like new: $170. 13' DAIWA TV, Like new: $100. JVC 25 - watt shelf stereo, CD, Surround: $125. For more info call: 796-4368 leave message.

FREE AD! Have anything to sell? Buy? Swap? Trade? Submit your Free (student, 30 words or less) ad to box 1410, the Westerner office (CC 163) or the Westerner box in Student Activities. There's nothing better than a free AD! FREE AD! =)

Ride Share

Do you **commute** from *Westfield?* Would you be willing to share a ride with a carless student. **Will pay for gas**, of course. Please send name, number, & cost to box 1410.

Travel

EARN FREE TRIPS & CASH *CLASS TRAVEL* needs students to promote Spring Break 1998! Sell 15 trips & travel **free**! Highly motivated students can earn a free trip & over $10,000! Choose Cancun, Bahamas, Mazatlan, Jamaica or Florida! North America's largest student tour operator. Call Now! 1.800.838.6411

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Spring Break '98 - Sell Trips. Earn Cash & Go Free!!!! *Student Travel Services* is now hiring campus reps/ groups organizers. Lowest prices to Jamaica, Mexico, & Florida. Call 1.800.648.4849

Wanted

Bands and Performers: Looking for bands and performers for local club. Original material is preferred but covers are welcome as well. Fax or call your information to 413.734.0554.

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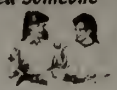

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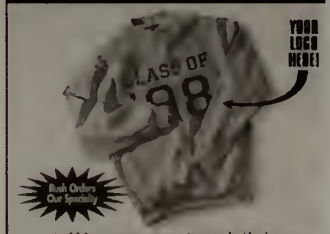

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Job Search Letters

Helpful Hints from Career and Human Resources

Are you a senior looking for a job? The first step to finding and applying for jobs is writing.

In your job search, there will be many occasions which will require written correspondence. The job search letters you write should create a good impression, so it's important to use high quality bond paper and matching envelopes, avoid sending out form letters, address recipient of the letter by name and title (call the organization to verify and double check spelling), be written clearly and simply, contain positive content, remain short in content (no more than one page with three to four paragraphs), and proofread for grammatical and spelling errors.

There are seven basic letters you will probably use during your job search.

The Cover Letter/Letter of Application should accompany your resume. The purposes of the cover letter are to stimulate the reader to review your resume and invite you for an interview. Use this type of letter in response to job advertisements and vacancy announcements.

Before writing a cover letter, you should study the position description carefully and choose themes that demonstrate persuasively that your qualifications fit the requirements of the position. Be sure to personalize the cover letter to the specific needs of the employer, identifying what you have to offer and how you can fulfill the organization's needs.

Companies with advertisements of job vacancies aren't the only places you should send your resumes to. Prospecting Letters are to prospect for possible vacancies, to get your resume read, and to generate interviews.

Prospecting letters are used mostly for long-distance job searches. Prospecting letters are structured similarly to the cover letter, but instead of using position information, focus on broader occupation and organizational dimensions to describe how your qualifications match the work environment.

Job search letters can also be used to learn more about various companies and positions. Networking letters are designed to generate an information interview—not a job interview.

Informational interviews could provide you with specific information about your intended career and the job market. Normally a resume is not attached to a networking letter, but it may be presented during the interview itself to help the contact address your questions.

When writing a networking letter, establish a connection between you and the reader (e.d., alumnus/alumna of your school, mutual acquaintance, similar interest or background, etc). You should state your purpose without pressuring the reader and request a meeting at a mutually convenient time. Indicate that you will call to make arrangements.

Your correspondence should not be limited to job searches and requests for information or interviews. The Thank You/Follow-Up Letters are the most important, yet least used tools in a job search. Anyone that helps you in any way should get a thank you letter (interviewers, network contacts, references, etc).

When used to follow-up on employment interviews, thank you letters should be sent within 48 hours to everyone that interviewed you, or, at a minimum a letter should be sent to the primary person with whom you interviewed.

Express sincere appreciation for the interview. Reemphasize your strongest qualifications and draw attention to the good match between your qualifications and the job requirements. Reiterate your interest in the position and prove or offer supplemental information not previously given.

Letters are also important for accepting positions. Acceptance Letters are used to accept a job offer, to confirm the terms of your employment (salary, starting date, etc), and to positively reinforce the employer's decision to hire you. Express excitement and your appreciation for the opportunity.

Even if you change your mind, a letter is a courtesy. Withdrawal Letters are an ethical obligation to inform all other employers of your decision and to withdraw your employment application from consideration.

Your withdrawal letter should express appreciation for the employer's consideration and courtesy. It may be appropriate to state that your decision to go with another organization was based on having better person-job fit for this stage in your career. Do not say that you obtained a better job. Try to leave the door open for future contact.

You can even write a letter to reject an offer. Rejection Letters aren't only written by employers. Candidates may have to decline employment offers that do not fit their career objectives and interests. Rejecting an employment offer should be done thoughtfully. Indicate that you have carefully considered the offer and have decided not to accept it. Also, be sure to thank the employer for consideration and courtesy. Again, leave the door open for future opportunities.

For more information on job search letters, visit the Office of Career and Human Resources (second floor, campus center).

Get To Know Your Career Counselor

School of Engineering: Julia Santa

Bioengineering
Electrical Engineering
(Computer Option,
Electirical Option)
Industrial Engineering
(Manufacturing Option,
Systems Option)
Mecbanical Engineering
(Manufacturing Option)

School of Business: Colleen O'Brien

Accounting
Computer Information Systems
Finance
General Business
Managment
Marketing
Marketing Communications/Advertising
Sport Managment
Technical Managment

School of Arts and Sciences: Maureen Pollard

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Chemistry
Communications
Computer Science
Criminl Justice
Economics
Education (Elementary, Secondary)
English Literature
Environmental Science
Government
History
Intergrated Liberal Studies
Law Enforcement
Mathematical Sciences
Pre-Pharmacy
Psychology
Socail Work
Sociology

Your Personal Place In Cyberspace

(NAPS)—Would you like to tell the world about yourself—your favorite activities, movies, songs, or Websites? Or, would you like to issue an illustrated newsletter reporting on activities and news about your family members wherever they may be?

Internet users are doing all these things—and more—on personal Web pages (PWP). A PWP is like having your own personal yellow pages ad on the Internet. It lets you define yourself or your business, and share your personal and professional interests. You can also feature photographs, animations, graphics, video and sound, as well as links to other Internet sites. Since your e-mail address—your own address in Cyberspace—can be included on your page, you'll soon be in touch with online users with similar interests.

PWPs are created on the World Wide Web using space and guidance provided by Internet service providers (ISPs) and on-line services. There are well over a million personal web pages, and every month an estimated 100,000 Internet users of all levels of sophistication set up their own personal place in Cyberspace

Every PWP is as unique as its author, and the reasons for creating a page vary as well. Carol Bartl, who has a personal Web page on AT&T WorldNet Service, explains that a PWP "allows me to express my personality, my opinions, my technical abilities and my creativity all in one package. How could I resist that opportunity?"

Your first step in creating a personal Web page should be to find an ISP or on-line service that provides an adequate space for a PWP, on-line technical support and guidance, and publishing tools for your level of experience.

An AT&T WorldNet Service study found that he average first-time publisher's PWP requires about one-third of a megabyte of computer memory, and so, to provide its subscribers with plenty of space, it's offering up to two megabytes for PWP's for $1.95 a month, and plans to offer five megabytes. For most people, a typical two megabyte page is more than enough. It might contain 15 text files; a mix of 20-25 small, medium and large images; one or two logos and a link to your e-mail address.

You'll want to use an ISP that makes it easy to get started as an on-line published author. To help you, AT&T WorldNet Service offers extensive tech support and resources that begin with detailed on-line tutorials for using various publishing tools. In minutes, even beginners can easily publish a Web page using a series of templates or copying samples. The more experienced or adventurous can use any authoring tool, or work directly in HTML (hypertext mark-up language) to create an even more personalized style.

Good design rules apply to the Web. Use graphic lines or boxes to highlight major subject areas. Integrate photos and color into your page, and use open space to avoid clutter. Visit other PWPs to find design ideas that work for you. Any Internet user can access the AT&T WorldNet Service PWP homepage through its address on the Internet—www.att.net. From there, you can visit several outstanding Web pages and sample some of the PWP publishing resources used to create them.

The rest is up to you.

Big E Protest

by **Joshua Shear**

WEST SPRINGFIELD--Approximately 40 people from two Western Massachusetts animal rights groups protested the treatment of animals at circuses on Sunday, Sept. 21 at the Eastern States Exposition.

The University of Massachusetts Animal Rights coalition (ARC) and New England Animal Action (NEAA) protested what they said was harsh treatment of animals at the annual West Springfield fair.

Two ARC members, Nana Ferrante and Jenn McGregor, went inside to see bears, dogs, and other animals do things that many animals do not normally do, like jump through rings of fire and ride bicycles.

Outside, protesters pointed out skin rashes and tight chains on elephants that were giving rides.

According to literature passed out by the ARC and written by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, many of the animals are responding to shocks from electrical rods and other methods of coercion.

At 1:00 p.m. the group of UMass students arrived at the Big E and began to protest with banners and flyers. "At first, the [police] gave us a hard time, but when NEAA showed up with a protest permit at 2:00, they had to back off," said ARC president Lance Morosini.

In past years, the group has protested the treatment of animals at the annual fair, but many people told them they did not belong there with pictures and slogans that could scare children.

"We were received surprisingly well: people took pamphlets and one woman even said, 'you guys are right; these animals really don't look happy,'" said Morosini. He also mentioned that NEAA member Pete Teraspulski was shown on the evening news Sunday night.

For the UMass ARC, the year is just beginning, and they are urging people to do whatever they can to stop mistreatment of animals.

Some members of the group protest circuses and greyhound racing establishments. Others volunteer at local animal shelters. Some members eat meat, many are vegetarian.

"We're very open-minded, we don't exclude anyone," said former ARC president Monica Shimmamura. She said that the ARC acts as a resource for people who want to get involved in helping animals and people who need information for research papers.

New Academic Policy to Affect Freshmen and Transfer Students

Students registering for the spring semester, who are operating under the new (1997-98) catalogue, should be aware of changes in the old *Humanities* requirement.

The new catalogue requires coursework in the "elements of culture," which includes not merely studying "a culture other than one's own" (the old *Humanities* requirement) but also an appreciation of the arts.

To do this with only one course, students just look in the class schedule for courses labelled *CA*. Two courses offering this spring, HUM 247 and HUM 250, will have this label. Students may also satisfy this requirement by taking any courses with a HUM designation (except HUM 390) and another course in the Arts, such as ART and MUSIC. The HUM courses will be labeled *C* and the art courses will be labeled *A* in the schedule book.

In addition, all students should be aware of the following change, described by Academic Vice President in a note to the college community.

"As a result of an action taken by the Faculty Senate last spring, it is College policy, effective this fall semester, that students may withdraw from classes without penalty until November 25, 1997, the late withdrawal date. There is now only one withdrawal date each semester and the WF grade no longer exists. Students who withdraw by November 25 may withdraw with a grade of W."

Student Patrol

continued from page 3

program's value to Public Safety and to the College community.

Their campus foot patrols have alerted the campus police to college and personal property damage, ill and injured persons. Their patrols have further been responsible for saving members of the College community from serious personal harm.

In a further effort to provide assistance and an increased feeling of security, the Student Patrol provides a protective escort service to any member of the campus community during their hours of operation. Persons wishing to be escorted from one area to another on -campus need only call Public Safety at extension 782-1207 or use one of the 14 emergency telephones located throughout the campus.

Although the Student Patrol program is relatively new to the Western New England College campus, its value is gradually becoming recognized.

The Student Patrol has recently been assigned to the WNEC Law School Wednesday through Saturday nights to act as a deterrent against intrusion and to provide an overall security presence. This assignment was made in direct response to a request made by the Law School.

Student wish to learn more about the Student Patrol Program are encouraged to call the Student Patrol Coordinator Gene Allyn at extension 782-1519. While upperclassmen are preferred, all interested students will be considered.

What If???

~ Karen thought she had met a really nice guy

~ She said "no" but Mike knew she meant "yes"

An interactive program on sex, dating, and rape

When *No* Means *No*: Respecting Choices

Thursday, October 9
7:00
Alumni Healthful Living Center

Why this program is important:

~ One in three women will be the victim of rape or attempted rape.

~ One in 12 men have committed an act that meets the legal definition of rape.

Co-sponsored by Office of Freshman & Transfer Students and Office of Student Activities.

Six Tips to Survive College with Grace

by **Jennifer Hastings**
Student Assistant,
Student Disability Services

Is college life getting the better of you? Do you feel unorganized, unprepared and restrained with your academic obligations? Do you also feel like you are never going to find time in the day just for yourself? If you answer "yes" to the following questions you are probably feeling like many of the other students here at Western New England College.

However frustrated you might be with your current situation there are certain things that you can do to improve you academic career. Below are six easy tips that could help make your life a little easier.

1. **Study the subjects that take the longest time to complete, or the ones that you might not like first.** By doing this more energy is spent on the subjects that need the most attention instead of the subjects that you already enjoy and with which you are familiar. If you find that you are continually avoiding a specific subject, that course might be a potential trouble area, and further help might be necessary.
2. **Use waiting time.** This is the time that students have in-between classes, waiting for friends, and time in between school and work. This time is usually spent socializing and/or watching television. If you can complete little tasks during these times you will find yourself ahead instead of behind.
3. **Agree with living mates about study time.** This is an important tip because if you can't have peace and quiet when you study, your assignments may suffer.
4. **Be aware of your best time of day.** It is important to look at yourself and be aware of your most productive times of the day. It should be at this time that you plan to do most of your studying. It is also a good time to get those more difficult subjects out of the way.
5. **Learn to say "no."** This is not only a valuable time-saver, but an important life skill as well. No one con do everything and do it well (at least without going insane or getting sick). Therefore, it is important to learn how to say "no" effectively and courteously.
6. **Avoid marathon study sessions.** Shorter study sessions are much more productive than longer ones. Our ability to stay focused and on-task is surprisingly short. Therefore, you are likely to get more work done and retain more information in a two hour study session than you would in a nine hour study session, where the tendency might be to find other non-related tasks in which to get involved (cleaning you room, for instance).

These tips are just some of the ways to help with your demanding schedule. If you have any problems with academic difficulty, the following is a list of potential resources:

-Math Center (H307) 782-1692
-Student Disability Services (DH G01) 782-1528
-Writing Center (H107) 782-1606
-Counseling Center (CC249) 782-1221

Pedestrian Safety

by Jamie Rogge

Walking from place to place definitely has its advantages: exercise, being able to get fresh air, and of course the fact that it is free of cost. But what about its disadvantages? One disadvantage that has many people concerned is the issue of safety.

Whether you are a young child or teenager, walking to and from school, or an adult out for an afternoon walk, there is no doubt about it: the city is definitely not a safe place to be walking, especially alone. Everyday, there are people being mugged, shot, or even brutally murdered; innocent people, who are minding their own business but who just happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

This has one Springfield area mother concerned.

"I have two sons, one's 12 and the other 15," she said. "They go to the same school, so I let them walk home together. It's only about a 20 minute walk; I never thought anything would happen to them. Now my 12 year old son is blind in one eye because he walked the wrong way home; right through a gang neighborhood."

Not only are parents concerned for their children's safety, but for their own as well. John Conway of Springfield says "he fears for his own life just as much as he does for his wife and daughter."

He adds, "I am a 35-year-old man, and I consider myself quite physically fit. But I can't stop a bullet; that's why I refuse to walk around the city. I have a wife and a 4- year-old daughter to care for; I don't want to have to worry about looking the wrong way at someone and getting shot or mugged because of it."

It may seem as though walking around the city is a big danger, and to some it is. But many people feel that it its a problem greatly exaggerated.

"I can't understand what the big deal is," said a 17-year-old male, standing outside of Springfield Central High School. "If you can't deal with the people, stay off the streets. I hang out on the streets, and no one gives me a problem. It's no big deal. If you get shot, it's your own fault."

This issue of safety, as with anything, is something that everyone has an opinion about. There will always be crime and unsafe situations, but if everyone works together, maybe something can be done about it. At least it's worth a try.

Echoes Heard Across Campus

by George Semanie, Jr.

On September 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the Alumni Healthful Living Center, as part of the Freshman Focus Program, Maxine Maxwell led the college on a journey through America's past.

Maxwell gave a powerful performance of characters from slavery through the present day. Maxwell was riveting in her demonstrations of what it was like to be an African American in the past. By portraying characters she gave a brief synopsis of hard life many African Americans went through.

In her act on slavery, she demonstrated a slave girl who had been deformed by a beating she had received from her master. What she portrayed of these women made this audience member feel the girl's pain. Even though I would never truly know the pain and suffering she went through, I sensed a bit of pride in her because she would not back down. Though she was scared, she maintained her pride in her culture.

Another act that touched me was that of a black school girl trying to receive an education when she was able, by law, to attend a white school. Seeing Maxwell hold those books and the real tears that came from her eyes captivated the audience. I glanced at our campus community during this skit and could see the faces of young freshman, and other observers being educated in yet another way besides the classroom. It was great to the spellbound faces of the crowd as our entertained educated us.

I think the Western New England College community owes Maxwell a praise of thanks to opening up our minds and letting us know that we, as a college community, can change the world.

Club Corner

Alpha Kappa Psi

by Brandy Wester

Alpha Kappa Psi is the only Professional Coed Business Fraternity at Western New England College.

In the past year our membership has grown tremendously. This semester's pledge class is the largest in recent years.

The chapter has a lot of goals and plans for the semester. Some of the professional topics we plan to cover during the year include: career skills, resumes, and career opportunities within the government. We would also like to become more involved with the local community and possibly work with Habitats for Humanity.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Fraternity should contact Professor Ned Schwartz, who is located on the second floor of Churchill Hall.

Marketing Association

The Marketing Association has successfully started the 1997-98 academic year. The CD cases at the Activities Expo were a huge hit. The first meeting on September 16 had a turnout of about 30 people.

We are currently working on our first trip for the semester. In conjunction with the FMA, the Marketing Association is planning a trip to Sturbridge Village on October 23. The trip is dual purposed giving members the opportunity to tour the colonial village at their leisure as well as learn about the field of marketing from a speaker from Sturbridge Village's marketing department.

The meetings for the Marketing Association are held on Tuesdays in Emerson 108 at 1:00. Anyone with questions or ideas for the Marketing Association is welcome to attend the meetings or speak with Dave Kuhera at 796-4345 or the club's advisor, Professor Paul Costanzo, in Churchill Hall (second floor).

This year's officers are: Dave Kuhera, Stephanie McGill, Brandy Wester and David Maio.

THE INFORMATION BOOTH
NOW HAS
NEW, MORE CONVENIENT
HOURS:

Monday ~ Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

THE GOLDEN REAR CLASSIFIEDS

Your FREE connection to the Western New England College community [30 word maximum, 30+ words constitues a $.25 per word charge.] With sections for all your advertising needs how can you go wrong?! Submit advertisements to the Student Publications Office or Box 1410. For more information please contact The Westerner staff at 782-1580.

The Fine Print: The FREE ads are only available to students of the college. There is a charge for local businesses and individuals who aren't students. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any advertising due to space limitations or content.

Ask Marilyn

Dear M~
I am torn between three men. They are all really great, but I am not one for commitment. I like to date all of them [no sex, of course] but I'm afraid I may lose all three guys if I don't decide on one. What do I do?

Dear Torn~

Well, well, well. It seems as though you have most of the male population on campus under your spell. What to do, what to do?! As I see it my dear you need to be upfront with these men of yuurs. There is NOTHING wrong with dating mure than one persun at a time as lung as you are upfront and honest about it.

Dear M~
I am a shy person and was wondering how I can go aboat asking a girl out on a date?
Signed,
Confused in Love.

Dear Shy & Confused~

First off, you are going to have tu somehow make conversation with this lovely lady you are in love with. How do you do that?! Well, I suggest you find something you have in common. If you have a class together maybe you can somehow work it out that you study for a test together. If you are in the same club try to plan an activity or program together. Yuu need to make the leap sometime. The worst she can say is no — and if she does then it's her loss because she'll he missing out on all you can give her. Good luck and tell me how it goes.

Dear M~
Anything interesting happening on campus soon?

Dear Seeker~

Sure there are. Have you picked up an activity calendar from student activities? How about the *Weekdays* and *Weekender*? All of these sources are full uf upcoming activities. But since you've been so gracious to write in and ask I will give you a nice BIG hint...check page two for a line up of wonderful campus activities.

Dear M~
When you are in a relationship where do you draw the line when your boyfriend flirts with every girl around? Now, I can see talking, studying, etc. — I don't mind that, but what about touching?! What, when, where do you draw the line between flirting and cheating?

Dear Touch Torn~

Well, seems as though we have a real problem here. Touching is a touchy suhject [no pun intended]. If your boyfriend is an overly touchy/ feely kind of guy, and it really buthers you, then you *need* to talk to him about it. Tell him how much it hurts yun tu see him falling over other women. Tell him if it makes you just. I don't recommend yelling at him because that will not solve a thing. Remain calm, rational, and strong. I know you are louking for words that'll make this all better, but *I* can't tell you where to drawn the line. The point where his touching others becomes uncomfurtahle for you is the point where you shuuld draw the line. Good luck my dear and keep me posted. PS. Here's a *hug* for luck.

Dear M~
Why is it, because this campus is so small, that the people have to drop down to the same level ? Ex. You like someone and the next thing you know it turns into a sixth grade situation!

Dear Mature~

Did you ever think that it may be the friends you hang out with that make situations seem su child-like? I hear the frustration in your words, but maybe you should step back and look at who you are telling your desires to. If you really like someone shouldn't you be strong enough to approach that person on your own and tell them of your feelings [or at least ask them out?] I know what you are talking abuut — the sixth grade syndrome — and I really think it has to do with how and who you approach with yuur desires. You are right when you say that people tend to act childish around here — the rumor mill is unreal and more active than it should be. If everyone started worrying about themselves and others, in a positive manner, rather than spreading nastiness around, we wouldn't have this problem with childishness.

> ***"How should we let 'smelly boy' know that he needs to take a bath . . . ?!"***

Dear M~
Is it just me, or has this campus been smelling really bad lately? No, it's not the dumpsters in the smoldering heat, but a person here on campus! How should we let "smelly boy" know that he needs to take a bath, wash his clothes, and discover good hygiene?! This clothespin is harting my nose!

Dear Clothespin~

I *have* caught a foul wind in my nose recently and couldn't place the smell, but now that you mention "smelly boy" I can more accurately place it. So, to answer your question, YES the campus has been smelling like the landfill from hell.

Maybe we can reach 'SB' through this column alone. It's easy to preach good hygiene to small children, but you would think by now adults would have a better sense of cleanliness.

Truly I am stumped on how to inform SB to wash daily, use deoterent, and do laundry withuut being overly tacky, forceful, and mean. Yet this situation is screaming for bluntness.

I will leave it like this: SB, your peers are having a hard time enjoying the air they breathe when they are around yuu. Please read the non-verhal cues they are sending you and take the hint — WASH!

Dear M~
You would have to be a hold person to conquer the problems existing on this campus, so I figured you'd be the perfect person to help me out. I am a student leader, which requires a bit of boldness, a lot of work, and the ability to "take charge" of chaotic situations (when needed). I think I run things quite effectively, however, there is a fellow club member who likes to come in and take over, keep things to herself, and act selfishly (almost as if she's striving for her own personal gain, and not our club's). I appreciate the help, don't get me wrong. I just don't like her approach. I feel that working together is the key to success, hut we aren't. Do I tell her this of let her keep taking over? Sincerely, Stressed over Selfish.

Dear Stressed~

I appreciate your letter to me and would like to inform yuu that I am not here to conquer the problems existing on this campus — I'm here for advice and to lighten things up.

It sounds like you need to talk to this club member. Try to find out her motives rather than accusing her of being selfish. Remember that students join clubs to enhance themselves, and become more well-rounded.

If you think her enthusiasm is getting in the way of your club's pruductivity then talk to her. By letting the issue slide you will be creating more hostility and tension in your group whether yuu consciously believe it or not — your nonverbal cues will he screaming hostility. Also, if you feel that she is "taking over" you have another issue you need to come tu grips with. This sounds like it's really becoming an issue of power, do yuu feel like your role as leader is being threatened? This may be something else you would like to address. All in all, talking seems to be the cure to this madness.

Have a problem?
Ask *Maylin*!
Fill out the form below and mail it, along with comments or suggestions, to:
Ask *Marylin*
Box 1419.

Clip and Send To Box 1419 Clip and Send To Box 1419 Clip and Send To Box 1419

Ask Marilyn

Darling, do you have a problem? Let me help you. Ask me anthing you want. I'm listening...

Why Should I Become Involved?

In a few weeks, there will be nine engineering students representing Western New England College's Engineering Student Council at the 1997 National Association of Engineering Student Councils (NAESC) National Conference.

This year's conference, "Building Blocks for the Future," is being hosted by the university of Cincinnati. So far, in my short stay here at WNEC, I have been privileged enough to have previously attended two national and three regional engineering conferences, and two national board meetings of the NAESC. Let me just say that during these trips I have had the pleasure of meeting some of the most talented and hard working engineering students from around the country.

Why am I telling you all of this? I am saying all of this because most students cringe at the thought of becoming involved in another organization, when they simply don't realize that they have so much to gain by doing so. They see their involvement in an organization as another "time bandit" rather than an activity that can truly benefit themselves on a personal level. The truth of the matter is that a student who becomes involved gains far more as a person, than the organization that he or she is donating time to.

Even if you are not totally willing to do something simply for the satisfaction of helping out another person or group of people, try to find something in it for yourself. Another thing to keep in mind is that you will have to put a resume together at some point in your college career. If you haven't been involved in any clubs or organizations in your stay here at WNEC, then you're taking a chance when it comes to finding a job after you graduate.

Think about this: the portion of your resume that highlights your education is no more than 2-3 lines long. Two to three lines on an 8.5 x 11 piece of paper is hardly a filler, so I strongly encourage you to find something that you like to do and get involved!

Dovid V. Zawacki

Editorials

October 6, 1997

Westerner Editorial Policies:

~ Editorials and Letters to the Editor should be submitted to the Publicotions Office and should include author's nome, address, ond phone number. If you wish to remain ononymous, indicate reason with submission. (NOTE: We still must know who wrote the article)
~ The opinions here do not necessarily represent the Westerner, its staff, or Western New England College.
~ All quotes and stories must be legitimate (the Westerner staff reserves the right to contact those quoted to ensure authenticity).
~ The Westerner staff reserves the right to withhold editorials due to controversial material.
~ The Westerner strives to uphold libel laws and produce integrity.

The New *Pedagogical Vistas* at WNEC

Nearly forty years ago B.F. Skinner, that dubious patriarch of behaviorism whose theories are drilled mercilessly into the minds of most PSY 101 students here at WNEC, predicted that someday, "with the help of teaching machines and programmed instructions, students could learn twice as much in the same time and with the same effort as in a standard classroom." He was talking about computers in a time when there was no common name for them, when they existed only as bulky, sarcophagus-shaped machines run by skilled programmers and eccentric professors. Technology, however, has changed. WNEC now has over 230 microcomputers. Anyone can use them. And, this year, there are approximately a dozen undergraduate courses with an on-line component.

What of Skinner's prediction, then? Initially, he seems right on target. Todd Oppenheimer, associate editor of Newsweek Interactive, observes that Skinner has, however indirectly, the backing of our president, who, in the engineering of his much-touted "bridge to the twenty-first century," has brazenly heralded an age "where computers are as much a part of the classroom as blackboards." An increasingly prevalent component of that technology is the internet - itself much-touted as a revolutionary teaching tool, drawing together the corners of the earth in mystical ways almost beyond human speculation.

Skinner, however, is not the only one to have made speculations about the assertion of technology over tradition. Henry Adams, wandering through "the great hall of dynamos" at the Great Exposition in Paris almost one hundred years ago, felt that our world was on the verge of a conversion the like of which has not been seen since Constantine's conversion to Christianity in 312. This century, with its explosive industrial and technological impetus, seems to have borne Adams out: we subscribe to pills in bottles instead of prayers and hymns; we celebrate the "triumphant spirit of humankind" in the spacewalks of astronauts and the immunization of disease. Whether this is for better or worse is debatable; the fact is that a change, a focal shift, has occurred.

In this spirit a few sanguine professors at WNEC seem to have adopted the cause of accelerated education, via the internet, with the fervor of religious converts. The internet, they insist, makes possible Skinner's notion of learning "twice as much in the same time" - and, implicitly, of teaching twice as much in the same time. With all of the "pedagogical vistas" now available to them, the very nature and theory of teaching is open to new, exciting interpretations, and some, at least, openly scorn the notions of anti-progressive traditionalists clinging timidly to their textbooks and a bulwarking administration too thick to see the inherent good in the "new pedagogy."

This sort of thinking, thankfully, is not yet pervasive in the academe at WNEC. These technological developments are *not* inherently good; the inclusion of the internet among usual sources of research material, with scarcely a backwards glance, exemplifies the attitude of which Adams was so wary - the impulse of men and women to apotheosize new technology with little understanding of it and little thought to its consequences.

I do not mean to vilify the internet any more than some of our professors mean to deify it; it is a remarkable development, as were all of the remarkable developments which preceded it. As resource material, however, it is deficient. Last semester's GO 102 course - American Government - had an internet requisite which led students to web sites with pages missing, or pages under construction, or pages inaccessible; the White House's site, from which students were to garner information for a paper, was so predictably biased one might conclude that William Jefferson Clinton is our patron saint of America. In fact, nearly all of the political web sites downloaded were saturated with information subjective and therefore useless.

This is the first and perhaps the most obvious complaint about the internet as resource material: it is, more or less, a cacophony of opinions, not fact. Oppenheimer concedes with proponents of the internet who object that college students ought to be wise enough to know the difference between good information and bad information, but even so he recognizes that "on almost any subject the Net offers a plethora of seemingly sound 'research.'" There are no editors working for the internet, no one verifying sources, no one checking for objective integrity where applicable. Our own school newspaper has a more rigid policy in this area than all of the web sites after which some of our professors send us scrambling.

But there is a greater repercussion here: the decentralization of the role of the professor in the teaching process. Skinner's implicit idea - that more teaching can be done in less time - is capable of breeding complacency in those converted to the new pedagogy. Why bother giving lectures, when they can be posted for everyone on a nifty little website? Why bother explaining in any great detail the particulars of a convoluted period of history when some convenient internet links will take the students where they need to go?

What is lost in the conversinn to this new technology is the human connection: the ability of teacher to look into his or her class, see the confusion or enthusiasm on a student's face, and improvise. Admittedly, sometimes professors might look out and encounter disinterest or boredom; how much easier to plug their charges into a module and leave them be! That is a tempting cop-out, easily justified under the banner of progress. The pedagogical challenges faced in today's classrooms will not be assuaged by today's technology; resorting to it merely deprives students of the communion of learning that can exist only in the classroom, with nothing more than a blackboard to assist.

The gods of the internet are false; computers alone are empty oracles; there is no more "moral force" in them than there was in the dynamo. Most professors at WNEC seem to realize this, fortunately, but there is reason to worry that, with successive generations of professors who have heard extolled the virtues and wonders of the internet, the conversion will spread. Skinner would be proud; Adams would morosely shake his head and wonder what to make of all the unblinking students, staring silently into the sick glow of a monitor and clicking incessantly.

Wayne Barr, Jr.

Gateway Parking

What happens when you have more students with cars than you do parking places? If you reside in Gateway Village, you know the answer.

Everyday, students drive in and out of the parking lot; the only problem is, it seems as though more are coming than going. The parking lots are almost always filled to capacity, and those looking for a space can rarely find one. Horns honk angrily, and vehicles idle, waiting for someone to leave so they can pull in. On many occasions, vehicles will be illegally parked, whether it be in front of the dumpsters, behind another vehicle - blocking it in - or on the lawn. This is a major frustration, and many agree something needs to be done about the situation.

"It seems as though the parking situation could be easily solved, though I don't have an answer myself," one Gateway resident said. "I think that it is reasonable to say that each individual with a car should have a space to park it in."

Not only do some students feel angered by the fact that there is no place to park, but many are concerned with safety as well.

"I get really angry when I have to park my car in a spot other than in my designated area. I don't expect to have a space right in front of my apartment, but wheo I have to park a block or two away, I don't know who could tamper with it or what could happen to it," said Sarah, a sophomore residing in Gateway. "I feel it is much safer for it to be parked in my designated lot, and not someone else's."

On the issue of safety, one resident felt it was unsafe to have to park a great distance from one's apartment and have to walk home alone.

"It really disturbs me," she said. "I'm really frightened to have to walk alone, mainly at night. I've run into problems before, walking alone, and I'm in no hurry to encounter those problems again."

Many feel the whole situation is unfair. However, there are some residents unaffected by the situation; mainly the students who don't have vehicles.

"I don't have a car, so I really don't care," an anonymous resident stated. "I think people are making too big a deal about it. At least they have cars; they shouldn't make a fuss about where to park it."

It is a hassle for those students with vehicles, but at this point, it seems as though nothing will be done about it. The solution for now is to be patient, and deal with what you can get.

Jamie Rogge

A Transfer Student Adjusts to WNEC

As a junior transfer student at Western New England College I have many mixed thoughts. When I came here for the summer orientation everyone seemed so friendly and outgoing, making me feel welcomed. I have come to realize that it was all a facade.

I happen to be blessed with exceptionally wonderful roommates. If that were not the case, I would be in a horrible situation. Granted, I have only been here for a month, but how much is really going to change? I have not met but one or two people outside of my roommates that were the least bit kind. I am finding it very hard to make friends. As a junior everyone is already in their cliques and is not interested in meeting new people. Basically, I am very disappointed in the social aspects of life in Western New England College.

As for the educational aspect of school, I have only gone to see one teacher and my academic advisor. My teacher was willing to help out a lot and was a great asset, which I did not have at my old school. I found that comforting. My academic advisor, however, seemed very indifferent to any decision I wanted to make, which was annoying.

All of my teachers assume that I have the same prior knowledge as the rest of the students in my classes which is not the case. It just makes my time here even more of a struggle. (Speaking of a struggle, the blackboards in the classrooms really should be washed more often. There is a build-up of chalk which makes it very hard to see what is written on the board).

I would like to add some positive experiences that I have had in the past month. My RA and peer advisor have been very kind to me. I feel as though if I need someone to count on they would be there for me. I think that having a peer advisor is a great idea. It definitely made the first two days easier. Also, my RA has become a friend of mine, whicb also makes things a little bit easier.

Although my attitude may seem somewhat negative, I am enjoying the experience of being on my own and gaining my independence. I will just take it one day at a time.

Anonymous

Congratulations to the new staff of

The Review of Art & Literature

Jennifer O'Brien
Assistant Editor

Emily Queeney
Treasurer

Beth Hastings
Layout Editor

Jenn Hastings
Art/ Photo Editor

Christopher Service
Publicity Editor

Attention Commuters!

The Campus Post Office has mailboxes available for commuting students.

There's no charge for this service.

Don't miss your opportunity to get connected to the rest of the campus and get club updates, information, newsletters, packages, personal mail and more!

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Our hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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October 6, 1997

Arts & Entertainment

Dream Theater: Testing the Boundaries of *Infinity*

by Rob Jacque

As soon as music begins on *Falling Into Infinity*, Dream Theater's fifth official studio album, you know you're onto something different. For a band that has no difficulty experimenting in all types of music genres, Dream Theater's *Falling Into Infinity* covers a wide range of them.

Dream Theater, the sum total genius of Mike Portnoy, drums & percussion; John Myung, Bass; James LaBrie, Vocals; Derek Sherinian, Keyboards; and John Petrucci, guitars: came into the spotlight after the band's second release, *Images & Words*. The album, a follow up to *When Dream & Day Unite*, featured the first appearance of LaBrie, who replaced Charlie Dominici on vocals, and eight blistering tracks. The first single, "Pull Me Under," went to #4 on MTV and maintained substantial radio airplay.

Following the acclaimed success of *Images & Words* and *Awake*, the platinum selling album fueled by such monstrous rockers as "The Mirror," thought-provoking ballads such as "The Silent Man," and "Space-Dye Vest," and the epic twenty-minute masterpiece "A Mind Beside Itself," which is broken into subdivisions of frenzied instrumental "Erotomania," the calm-to storm track "Voices," and the acoustic "Silent Man."

After touring successfully on *Awake*, Dream Theater decided to release a single track which was intended to be released on *Awake* but was too long for album. *A Change Of Seusons*, the name of the album as well as the track, contains additional rare live performances of such classic covers as "Carry On Wayward Son," by Kansas, "Bohemian Rhapsody," by Queen, "The Song Remains the Same," by Led Zeppelin and "Funeral for a Friend," by Elton John. The title track, "A Change of Seasons," is a twenty-three minute tour de force in which the band explores countless musical styles all within the span of the song.

For those of you who aren't too familiar with them, a brief biography: The band was formed when Portnoy, Myung, Petrucci, and then-keyboardist, Kevin Moore, formed Majesty, the speed metal progressive predecessor of Dream Theater. All four members met and began playing at Boston's Berkelee School of Music, where they all majored in music theory.

For a band whose influences range from Rush to King Crimson to Stevie Ray Vaughn, Dream Theater is definitely a progressive hard rock lover's 'dream' come true. Known to dabble in the odd-time signatures, Dream Theater loves to challenge their fans as well as entertain them.

Falling Into Infinity, which hit stores September 23, in certainly a feast for true prog-rock fans. From hard, progressive rock tracks like "Burning My Soul," to melodic, free-flowing pieces like "Anna Lee," *Falling Into Infinity* delivers over seventy-eight minutes of loud rock bliss.

1997 Elektra Entertainment Group

Megadeth: New *Writings* on the Wall

by Rob Jacque

Just when you thought the airwaves were safe again, Megadeth, those four speed metal maestros of chaos, released their eighth album, *Cryptic Writings*, to stores everywhere this past summer.

For those uf you who aren't too familiar with the band; a little background info. Megadeth is the sum total of Dave Mustaine, lead vocals & rhythm guitar; Marty Friedman, lead & rhythm guitars; Dave Ellefson, bass; and Nick Menza, drums & percussion. The band was formed back in 1983 after Mustaine parted with the then-groundbreaking speed metal band Metallica. Mustaine joined forces with Dave Ellefson to form the band that was instantly dubbed a thrash band to be reckoned with.

After the band's first album *Killing Is My Business...And Business Is Good* (1985) was accepted with rave reviews, Megadeth decided to change labels from Combat records to Capitol, which has remained their faithful label ever since, releasing *Peace Sells...But Who's Buying* (1986) which established platinum status, and the gold *Sa Far, So Good...So What!* (1988).

Riding high on the success of their past three albums, the band went through yet another change, this time to the band line-up. Enter axe-slinger Marty Friedman and the skin pounder Nick Menza, cumpleting the ferocious line-up.

Megadeth's next three albums: *Rust In Piece* (1990), *Countdown to Extinction* (1992), and *Youthanasia* (1994), were all certified platinum. In 1995, Megadeth released *Hidden Treasures*, a true-fan must-have that contained various covers and hits the band recorded for soundtracks and tribute albums.

On *Cryptic Writings*, the band still exudes it's classic politically driven songs, found in such tracks as "FFF" and "Have Cool. Will Travel," as well as the turbo hard rock/thrash of "The Disintegrators," "I'll Get Even," and "Mastermind." Mustaine even delves into his own troubled past, playing un his own personal addiction to drugs in "Use The Man." The band also dabbles in the realm of troubled and destroyed relationships, somewhat of a new arena for them, in such songs as "Almost Honest" and their first single, "Trust."

Cryptic Writings is jam-packed with a whole spectrum of the dark emotions of human beings: rage, denial, heartache, betrayal, and revenge, just to name a few. Always a band willing to explore new and uncharted territory, Megadeth has definitely delivered yet another platinum-worthy album for it's hungry fans to feast on. Bon Appetit!!

CD Spins

Recent Releases

Vanessa Williams--*Next*
Usher--*My Way*
Brian McKnight--*Anytime*

Upcoming Releases for October

Tuesday, October 7

Janet Jackson--*The Velvet Rope*
Everclear--*So Much Afterglow*

Tuesday, October 14

Greenday--*Nimrod*
LL Cool J--*Phenomenon*

Tuesday, October 21

Salt-n-Pepa--*Brand New*

Tuesday, October 28

Phish--*Slip Stitch and Pass*

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Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m.
Student Publications Office

Staff Reporters and Photographers Needed.

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Over 50 Films to be Screened in Northampton

Ed Asner and Particia Neal to Join the Festivities

The 1997 Northampton Film Festival (NFF) kicks off on Thursday, November 6 with a day and evening long celebration of women in film and video.

Independent films made by women, including some artists with connections to the Pioneer Valley, will be shown all day at the Academy of Music, with a two hour lunch program scheduled for the Depo. Many of the films are premiere presentations.

In the evening, the NFF will present a tribute to Academy Award-winning actress Patricia Neal. Neal will be on hand to talk with the audience, and a compilation of clips from her many films will be screened.

Following this tribute, the NFF will present the area premiere of a feature film by Northampton native, Maureen Foley. The film, "Home Before Dark," chronicles an 11 year-old girl's attempts to deal with her mother's suicide attempt and the break-up of her family. Starring are Katharine Ross ("The Graduate;" "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid"), Patricia Kalembar, Brian Delate, and Stephanie Castellarin.

On Saturday evening, November 8, the NFF will commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Hollywood Blacklisting with a film and stage reading. The film is Academy-Award nominated "Hollywood on Trial," a documentary about the House Un-American Activities Committee Hearings (HUAC), the Hollywood Ten, and the entire McCarthy mentality. The screenwriter, Arnie Reisman, will be on hand to introduce the film.

This screening will be followed by a reading of "The Investigator," starring Ed Asner, with other noted and local actors and personalities in supporting roles. "The Investigator," a 1954 radio play, is a parody of the HUAC Hearings. This event is a collaboration with New Century Theatre and will be directed by Sam Rush.

Other Festival special events include:

A performance by the world-renowned Alloy Orchestra, a three person ensemble which writes and plays original scores for silent films. They will be performing their new score to Buster Keaton's classic film, "Steamboat Bill Jr." The print of the film is new, and a sound system will be installed at the Academy of Music to enhance the audience's experience. This event will take place Friday evening at 8:30.

The Film and Video Expo, sponsored by Kodak and Smith College, is a gathering of film and video products and service providers. They will be showcasing their wares at the Davis Ballroom on the Smith College Campus. Over 20 exhibitors will be on hand, including Special Effects Studios, Computer Animators, Editing Houses, Legal Services Providers, and Video and Film Producers. This free event takes place Saturday, November 8, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Three Afternoons of Independent Films and Videos, many of which are premieres, some of which are award-winners will be played Friday-Sunday, November 7-9, at the Academy of Music and Stoddard and Wright theatres on the Smith College Campus.

On November 7, at 6 p.m., at the Word & Pictures Museum, an Artists' Reception will be held, with food and beverages donated from area restaurants. On November 9, at 10 a.m., an Incredibly Italian Feast will be held at Spoleto.

Tickets for the Northampton Film Festival are on sale now. For ticket information, call the Mullins Center Info Line at 545-0505. For general information about the Festival, call Northampton Film Associates, Inc. at 586-3471.

You Can Quote Me on That . . .

--//--

"Leave everything a little better than you found it."
Jackson Brown, Jr., Life's Little Instruction Book

"Know thyself."
Socrates

"Expectations ruin relationships."
Neale Donald Walsch

"Hail, Hail the lucky ones I refer to those in love."
Eddie Vedder, Pearl Jam

"Support is the secret to success. Isolation is the dream killer."
Barbara Sher

"Round here we're never sent to bed early, nobody makes us wait, Round here we stay up very, very late!"
Adam Duritz, Counting Crows

Carey's *Butterfly* Barely Flutters

by Andrea D. Higgins

The music industry buzz during the summer months was about Mariah Carey. With her seventh CD, she was going to branch out into the world of hip-hop music and show the music industry a side of her that is rarely seen. Like most stories in the music industry, you shouldn't believe the hype.

Butterfly, (Columbia Records) is a rehash of what has made Carey one of the biggest selling artists of the 90's (but you must give credit to Sony Music for their marketing efforts).

The set's first single, and Carey's twelfth number one hit, "Honey," delivers a taste of the hip-hop flavor that was advertised, but if you are a fan of hip-hop music, the CD has little left to offer.

The CD's title track is an airy ballad using the trite idea of setting someone free in hopes that they'll return to you someday. But when the gospel-influenced background vocalists belt out the chorus ("Spread you wings and prepare to fly/For you have become a butterfly/Fly abandonedly into the sun/If you should return to me/We truly were meant to be/So spread your wings and fly/Butterfly") the played out scenario disappears, and it becomes evident that this butterfly will surely soar to the top of the charts.

1997 Sony Music Entertainment

Carey knows that her ballads are what made her popular, and she uses this to her advantage. Five of *Butterfly*'s 12 tracks are ballads with very little R&B influence. Ballads wouldn't ordinarily be a bad thing for Carey to perform, if she sang them with the passion and strong vocals that astounded the industry when she made her debut seven years ago. Instead of showing her singing ahilities, she sings in whispered, shaky tones that are barely audible over the music and background vocals.

The one exception is "My All," a power ballad that allows Carey's voice to soar over the music. As she wails "I'd give my all/To have your body next to mine/I'd give my life/To feel your body next to mine," she shows signs of the super vocalist that existed on prior recordings.

In a remake of Prince's "The Beautiful Ones" (from the *Purple Rain* soundtrack, before he was known as "The Artist Formerly Known As Prince"), Carey passively steps aside and lets guest vocalists Dru Hill take over the song. It isn't until the song reaches its climactic plea—"I may not know where I'm going babe/I may not know what I need/One thing, one thing's for certain/I know what I want/And that's to please you babe"—that powerful vocals are displayed (by both Carey and Dru Hill), but that is only a few seconds of the song. Duplicating the emotion and artistry displayed by Prince is obviously difficult, and this track should have been left alone.

Another perfect example of Carey's lack of vocal effort is "The Roof," a song about having sex on a rooftop while it's raining. Amidst the sampling, over-produced drumbeats, and vocal layering, it's difficult to tell where the background vocals end and where Carey's leads begin. If it weren't for the CD liner notes, I wouldn't have known what she was signing. And perhaps that's a good thing, as the lyrics ("Every time I feel the need/I envision you caressing me") aren't very challenging.

The R&B group Dru Hill are among the list of hip-hop stars that Carey placed on this CD, as songwriters, producers, and guest performers, in hopes of gaining the street credibility needed to make a smooth transition from pop princess to hip-hop queen. But the artists call so much attention to themselves that Carey fades into the background.

On "Breakdown," Bone Thugs 'n Harmony rap and chant in the background as Carey whispers "Well I guess I'm trying to be nonchalant about it/I'm going to extremes to prove I'm fine without you/But in reality I'm slowly losing my mind/Underneath the guise of a smile gradually I'm dying inside." Bone

continued on the next page

Mariah Carey

continued from previous pege

Thugs' sound is an acquired taste, but the song is clearly the standout song of the set.

To give her sound more of an edge, Missy Elliott was called on to co-write "Babydoll," a song about a woman who is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the man she's having an affair with, but he never shows up. As Carey swoons, "Slipping into dreams/I feel my love surround you/My subconscious seems/To weave itself around you," she delivers the same childlike qualities of her "Dreamlover" and "Fantasy" days. Clearly, Elliott didn't feel Carey could pull off true hip-hop lyrics, but she wrote a likable song.

All in all, *Butterfly* seems like an extension of *Doydreom* (her previous multi-platinum success). Familiar elements, such as an upbeat R&B kickoff single (complete with a re-mix version featuring a rapper—for "Honey" she used Mase and The Lox), flighty ballads about longing for love, heart-wrenching lyrics about having your heart broken, and a song about how difficult it is to be from a multi-racial background are prevalent. While she has the ability to tap human emotions and make her listeners believe what they hear, her efforts are becoming monotonous.

There's no need to worry about Carey adopting a new persona. If *Butterfly* is the singer's move into the hip-hop world, she's taking baby steps. While having the guest stars and producers needed to make the tracks full of hip-hop flavor, Carey has remained a prisoner to dreamy ballads and somewhat childish lyrics. I guess she believes that old adage, "if it ain't broke, don't fix it." If only she would have felt that way about her vocals.

Monday, October 27th
7:00 p.m.
$100
Sponsored by CAB

Evolution Brings Few Changes

And That's Not Necessarily a Bad Thing

by Andrea D. Higgins

It has been three years since Shawn Stockman, Nathan Morris, Michael McCary, and Wanya Morris, collectively known as the Philadelphia quartet Boyz II Men, were riding high on the multi-platinum success of their sophomore album, *II*. The latest installment of their power ballads, sensitive lyrics, and smooth vocals is entitled *Evolution* (Motown Records).

Amidst alternative music's crossover into the pop world, the take-over of Puff Daddy's over-sampling, and the reign of female artists, the group resurfaced on the music scene at the end of the summer as if they had never been missing. "Four Seasons of Loneliness," *Evolution's* premiere single, though slow to pick up airplay, became an instant number one hit, while the video was placed in heavy rotation on MTV and BET.

Forget the gimmicks, promotions, and grandiose videos complete with Jet Ski chases and helicopters, because you won't find them on Evolution. The quartet is relying on the basic formula that rocketed them to stardom, including the writing talents of Jimmy Jam, Terry Lewis, and Babyface. One might wonder why this CD is, in fact, called *Evolution*.

1997 Motwon Records

The CD starts off perfectly with "Doin' Just Fine," the standout ballad written by Stockman. As each member takes turns on the lead vocals, it's easy to get lost in the lyrics ("I'm doin' just fine/Getting along very well/Without you in my life/I don't need you in my life/I'm doin' just fine/Time made me stronger/You're no longer on my mind").

Another high point is the sweetly sentimental "A Song For Mamma," which also appears on the Soul Food soundtrack. Babyface's lyrical presence is obvious as the Boyz sing "Mamma I just want you to know/Lovin' you is like food to my soul."

The ubiquitous Sean "Puffy" Combs acts as songwriter and producer on several of the CD's tracks, including "Can't Let Her Go." For this track, the quartet puts aside their laid back style and gets down.

To show that sampling is not always a way of escaping creativity. "Human II (Don't Turn Your Back on Me)" brilliantly intertwines the 80's Human League hit, "Human" (also written by Jam and Lewis) with the newer lyrics about forgiving human flaws.

As usual, the group displays sensitivity, romance, and respect toward women in their lyrics. In "To the Limit," they sing of all the luxuries they'd provide their women ("I'll rub your back/Wash your hair/I'll do anything/I don't care/I'll cook your food/Buy your clothes/To the limit/I will go").

The closing track, "Dear God," gives praise and shows devotion toward God and spirituality. The chorus, "That's why I'm writing you this letter/To let you know that I love you/Thank you for all that I am and for being a friend/Lord, my love for you'll never end," is sung with so much emotion and sincerity that it's moving.

The only bad aspect of the set is a cover of the New Edition hit, "Can You Stand the Rain." Although it is performed flawlessly acapella, it lacks the original emotion and appeal that New Edition brought to the lyrics.

Evolution may represent the growth of the quartet as songwriters and producers, or it may simply represent their personal growth. But it doesn't signify a change in focus or style. The members of Boyz II Men are smart enough to realize why they're loved and the formula to success in a fickle music industry. A change could mean disaster, but, luckily, the quartet knew that.

Local Happenings

10/09/1997
Hypnotic Clambake
All Ages
10:00 $5
Iron Horse Music Hall
20 Center Street, Northampton

10/10/1997
Sister Hazel
18+ 6:30
$8 in advance, $10 at the door
Pearl Street, Northampton

10/10/1997
June Rich
All Ages
7:00 $8
Iron Horse Music Hall

10/11/1997
Taj Mahal
(w/full band)
21+
8:00
$18.50 in adv., $20 at door
Pearl Street

10/11/1997
Burlap to Cashmere plus Native
All Ages
10:00:00
$5
Iron Horse Music Hall

10/12/1997
Clean Living
All Ages
7:00 $10
Iron Horse Music Hall

10/13/1997
Robben Ford
All Ages
7:00 $15
Iron Horse Music Hall

10/14/1997
David Lindley
All Ages
7:00 $16
Iron Horse Music Hall

10/14/1997
God Street Wine
18+
8:00
$10 in adv., $12 at the door
Pearl Street

10/14/1997
Good Roots
All Ages
10:00 $5
Iron Horse Music Hall

10/15/1997
Getting Your Business Online!
All Ages 6:00

10/15/1997
Trio: Joshua Reman,
Christian McBride &
Brian Blade
All Ages
7:00 $22.50
Iron Horse Music Hall

10/18/1997
Falcons vs. Adirondack
7:30
$11.50 Adults
CivicCenter

10/18/1997
The Machine
18+
8:30
$7 in adv., $8 at ,the door
Pearl Street

10/19/1997
N.E. Blizzard vs.Columbus
4:00 $20.00
CivicCenter
1277 Main Street,

10/22/1997
Machine Head
All Ages
7:00
$7 in adv.,$8 at thedoor
Pearl Street

10/23/1997
Biohazard
All Ages
7:30
$8 in adv., $10 at the door
Pearl Street

10/24/1997
Falcons vs.Fredericton
7:30
$11.50 Adults
CivicCenter

Fall Alumni Golf Tournament A Success

On Friday, September 19, the Fall Alumni Golf Tournament was held at OakRidge Golf Club in Feeding Hills, Mass. Our loyal alumni golfers came out to the course and enjoyed the beautiful weather and great golf.

The format was a best ball, and the results were a tie between the foursomes of Dean Stanley Kowalski and Bill Kaman '74. After matching the scores of the Handicap holes, Bill Kaman's foursome of Ed Miller, Chuck Bashaw G'79, and Bob Saunders won first place. Andrea Saari '96 annual fund and events coordinator would like to thank all of the golfers who participated in the tournament, and the committee, consisting of Jeff Goulet '88, Rod Pease '77/G'82, and Youssef Fadel G'87, for supporting this tournament.

The 30th Annual Alumni Golf Tournament will be held Friday, May 29, 1998. Please mark your calendars, for this promises to be a very special tournament.

Sports

October 6, 1997

Vaughn to Leave BoSox?

by David Weinberg

Boston Red Sox first baseman Mo Vaughn, otherwise known as the "Hit Dog," will likely be wearing a new uniform come next baseball season.

The 29-year-old slugger is under the assumption that the Red Sox franchise no longer needs his services. Vaughn currently has an impressive batting average at .317 with 32 home runs and 86 RBI. Many times, simply the mere presence of Vaughn entering the batter's box strikes fear into the hearts of opposing pitchers. Therefore, it is obvious that there may be *another* reason the Red Sox want to unload him.

The apparent problem is that the Red Sox first baseman has a personality conflict between Sox general manager, Don Duquette, and chief executive officer John Herringbone.

However, recognizing his baseball talent, the team has somewhat reluctantly offered the slugger the long-term contract that would pay him $8.5 million a season. Vaughn is likely to balk at the proposal because of conflicting views with the front office and his agent has estimated the "Hit Dog" is worth $10 million, not a *mere* $8.5 million.

Want to See a Bigger Sports Section?

Then Help Us Out!!

Do you want to report on the WNEC Sports Teams?

Interested in writing about Professional Sports?

Would you be willing to photograph Sporting Events?

If you answered YES to any of these questions (or want more information), please contact David Weinberg at 796-4453.

October Sports Schedule

Football

Saturday, October 11	Salve Regina University (A)	1:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 18	Stonehill (A)	1:30 p.m.

Women's Soccer

Thursday, October 9	Nichols (H)	3:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 18	Norwich University (A)	1:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 21	Framingham State (H)	3:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 23	Anna Maria (A)	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, October 28	Springfield (A) 3:30 p.m.	
Thursday, October 30	Elms (H) 2:30 p.m.	

Field Hockey

Tuesday, October 14	Regis (A)	3:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 18	Worcester State (H)	11:00
Tuesday, October 21	Eastern CT State (H)	4:00 p.m.
Monday, October 26	Elms (H)	3:30 p.m.

Men's Soccer

Wednesday, October 15	Clark University (H)	3:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 18	M.I.T. (A) 11:00 a.m.	
Wednesday, October 22	Johnson & Wales (A)	4:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 25	Westfield State (H)	11:00 a.m.
Tuesday, October 28	Nichols (H)	2:30 p.m.
Thursday, October 30	Framingham State (A)	3:00 p.m.

Women's Volleyball

Thursday, October 16	Babson (H)	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 21	Simmons (A)	7:00 p.m.
Thursday, October 23	MA Maritime (A)	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, October 28	M.I.T. (A)	7:00 p.m.

Men's Golf

Thursday, October 9	WNEC Invitational, Veterans Country Club	10:30 a.m.
Sunday, October 19	New Englands (A)	TBA
Tuesday, October 21	New Seabury Country Club	

1997 Fall Coaches

Field Hockey ~ Nancy Rivard
Football ~ G erry Martin
Men's Golf ~ William Downes
Men's Soccer ~ John Coburn
Women's Soccer ~ Ron Dias
Women's Volleyball ~ Greg Poole

Halloween Eve

Monster Bash

Thursday, October 30

8:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Dining Room A

Prizes given for creative costuming -- don't be left in the dust -- costumes are a must!

Food
Prizes
Live Band
Video Screen

Be There!

All ages party.
Proper ID required to drink.

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the Westerner, The Review, WNEK, and The Cupola.

Were you *Caught on Film?*
Campus Candids, page 8

Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

December 1997

the Westerner

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 43 / Issue 4

Future Diversity

Proposed Changes for the Campus Community

by Andrea D. Higgins and Anne-Marie Gravel

Of the full-time, traditional students enrolled in Western New England College, 7.7% are minority students, 81.5% are white, and 8.8% remained unstated in their ethnicity. What does this mean to you and the future of Western New England College?

A committee of 19, commissioned by Faculty Senate, were asked to prepare a report on the diversity of the campus community. They met regularly from February through October to construct "...a detailed set of proposals for increasing the percentage of African American, Hispanic, and Asian full-time undergraduate students at Western New England College."

The goal of this committee was not only to attract and retain minority students, but to expose students to "the kind of diversity that characterizes our society" as well as what "they will encounter in the workplace."

The Diversity Committee hopes to implement its "goal of doubling the number of African-American, Hispanice, Asian, and Indigenous American students" by the fall of 2001.

The Committee gathered the information from the college community, distributed surveys to students, faculty, and staff, and talked with minority leaders from the Springfield community. The document is a work in progress because there are still many topics to be considered, added, and deleted.

Dr. Caprio has encouraged students to take an active role and give input on the issues that will affect them. He will be meeting with representatives from United and Mutually Equal and Student Senate. "I welcome their opinions," Caprio stated adding, "They are important to the procedure."

On Monday, November 24, in Sleith Hall, at an open meeting of the Diversity Committee, Caprio and several members of the faculty, staff, and student body met to discuss the contents in the *Report of the Diversity Committee.*

The topics discussed during this meeting ranged from public relations and merit scholarships, to diversity training for faculty, staff, and students, and the addition of minority employees at the College.

Members of the minority community of Springfield stated to the committee that "Western New England College is invisible in the community," which is of paramount concern to the Diversity Committee. Among the requests the committee made of the College's public relations efforts was that the office should work to "publicize College activities that may be of interest to people of color in their communities."

G. Michael Dobbs, Media Editor in the College's Marketing and Communications Office, stated, "I would like to see WNEC reach out into the Springfield community." Dobbs also indicated that he sends out press releases regarding events that occur on campus to the various newspapers and radio stations in the area.

see Divesity, page 6

Holocaust Journey

Sir Martin Gilbert Speaks Out

by Wesley Bresette

On Thursday, November 13, as part of the Arthur and Rebecca Marshall Human Relations and Human Issues Lecture Series, historian Sir Martin Gilbert gave a lecture at Western New England College. The topic of the lecture was Gilbert's new book *Holocaust Journey: Traveling in Search of the Past.* The book itself is more of a travelogue, recalling a two week period in which Gilbert and ten graduate students toured the various locations where the Holocaust atrocities took place. Composed like a journal, the book recalls up to the minute what the team did. They journeyed to such places as the Cracow ghetto, Birkenau, the Gestapo headquarters, and the Izbica railway station where many Jews were transported to the Nazi prison. The book is more a personal journal for Gilbert and his students than it is a historical documentation.

Sir Martin Gilbert

Before the lecture I was afforded the chance to have a one-on-one conversation with him about the book. Gilbert was very cordial and helpful during the interview, providing me with a good amount of information. Gilbert began by telling me that ten of his graduate students from the University College in London approached him about going on a trip into the heart of Europe to visit many of the places where the Holocaust took place. Over a two-week period Gilbert and his students traveled across much of Europe. Whenever they would approach a place that was a remnant of the Holocaust, they would just quietly reflect, without talking. Gilbert said that it would be quiet for about ten minutes and then, as if they were reading each other's minds, the group would resume talking. Moments like those made the journey very emotional.

Gilbert also pointed out the fact that the book is more a study of Jewish life than it is about the Holocaust. When Gilbert and his students set out to go on this journey, they wanted to focus on what Jewish life had been like before the Holocaust. He also went on to say that the prison camps that he visited with the students were cold and desolate. Talking with Gilbert, I got a good impression of what *Holocaust Journey* is about.

Also in the course of my conversation I learned a lot about Gilbert himself. He told about his

See Sir Martin Gilbert, page 7

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NEWS December 1997

the Westerner

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Career Night Proves to be a Success

by Ryan O'Connor

On November 4, Western New England College alumni and faculty held a program called Sophomore Career Night. This program, which was attended by approximately 45 sophomores, gave each student an opportunity to speak with alumni and business representatives about interests in their major.

The night began with alumni introducing themselves to students and explaining when they graduated from WNEC and what type of work they do. The atmosphere in the room was very uplifting. All students, alumni, and faculty wore name tags, and were therefore able to approach and call each other by names — making conversation easier for the students.

Food was available for everyone in attendance, ranging from fruit on a tree to sandwiches and chicken fingers. Students were able to pick up information about their fields of interest at various tables separated by majors. 15 alumni and five faculty members answered questions students had for them.

President Anthony Caprio was also in attendance, walking around and socializing with students. WNEC Vice President Jane Albert said she thought that the event was a great chance for students to get their feet in the door of business. Some students utilized this opportunity more than others. Once the alumni were introduced, the room suddenly broke out in conversation between the curious students and the experienced alumni.

Rodney Pease, the Director of Student Administrative Services at WNEC, was also available to answer questions and give advise on succeeding in the business world. He encouraged students to become a "jack of all trades" and a master of one.

One of the coordinators of the program was student Desiree Decouta, who said that she was extremely pleased with the number of those in attendance and overall success of the program. "This program is a great opportunity for students to interact with people who really care about the important decisions you make in college."

For more information on Career Networking Events, visit the Office of Career and Human Resources

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From the desk of the Student Senate Grievance Committee . . .

Dear Students,

My name is Ryan Courtemanche, and I am the Grievance Chairperson for Student Senate. I am in charge of handling any grievances or proposals that you, as students, may have about Western New England College.

Please do not hesitate to contact me and let me know your concerns. It is an easy process: all you do is fill out a form, drop it under the Student Senate office door (back by the Print Shop in the Campus Center), and then I will take action and follow-up with you after I have exhausted all possible avenues. It is simple and easy, and it is your way to let people know what you don't like or what you want to see changed at the College.

The Grievance Committee has office hours in the Student Senate office on Wednesday's from 11:00 to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., and on Thursdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Also, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at rcourtem@wnec.edu and let me know your concerns.

YOU have the power to change things! Don't let your voice go unheard!

Sincerely,
Ryan Courtemanche

How To Land A Job In Public Relations

Advice From The Manager of News Information At Baystate Medical Center

by Andrea D. Higgins

"The more experience you can get before you enter the field, the better," is the most important aspect of landing a job in public relations, Keith O'Connor, Manager of News Information for Baystate Medical Center, told the members of the Communications Association during their November 13 meeting.

O'Connor talked candidly with students about what it is like to work for Baystate Medical Center, how he got his start in the field of public relations, and how to pursue a career in public relations.

O'Connor began building a portfolio for his future career while he was a student at Holyoke High School — only he was not aware that the field of public relations existed.

O'Connor described himself as a "shy and quiet guy" in high school and said he wasn't sure what he wanted to do. What he did know, however, was that he like to write and that he was a "big music fan." His love for writing led him to the high school newspaper, where he wrote a review of the Beatles' *White* album. His review appeared in the newspaper, and he wrote reviews from that day on.

In 1971, while he was preparing for graduation, his guidance counselor received a call from the Public Relations Director at American International College (AIC). AIC had a position available for a student, and they wanted him to work in the office. He began working in the office two hours every day, writing press releases and feature articles for the AIC alumni publication.

Despite the fact the AIC did not have a journalism or communications track to follow, O'Connor decided to remain at the college and continue his work in the public relations office. By his senior year, he was working six hours a day, which he said is the "equivalent of an internship" but "much more intense." The four years he spent in the office enabled him to build an impressive portfolio of writing samples and gain layout experience and knowledge, as well as point him toward his future career.

After O'Connor graduated from AIC, he said "the market was small." So he decided to obtain a Masters degree at the University of Massachusetts, but that did not work out as planned. "I absolutely hated it," he explained as he told students of his decision to drop out only nine credits short of obtaining his degree. A job offer from the *Holyoke Transcript* was the final push he needed. Even though he said he kicks himself for not sticking with it and emphasized that "it's a good idea to strive for a Masters degree if you have the opportunity," he explained that "nothing beats experience."

The job at the *Holyoke Transcript* was a promotional job that involved creating 12 to 16 sections a year. O'Connor's sections ranged in topics from gardens to new cars, and special Bridal and Christmas promotions. He said that they "localized 88% of the material" while he was there. This job enabled him to gain five years of writing experience, enhance his portfolio, and network.

O'Connor remarked that although a large percentage of those in the public relations field were previously journalists, "not everyone can make a successful transition." He explained that public relations involves a larger amount of in-depth writing than journalism does.

O'Connor held many positions between the time he worked at the *Holyoke Transcript* and the day he was hired at Baystate Medical Center, including positions at Valley Graphics, Springfield College, and Holyoke Community College.

O'Connor described his job at Baystate Medical Center as hectic. He oversees the weekly newsletter and works on all media relations, which includes building rapport with and selling stories to 35-51 media contacts a month.

"It's a busy office," O'Connor pointed out as he tried to explain a typical day at the office. His schedule is often sporadic, and he spends a lot of time working with media contacts. O'Connor gave an example of the job's spontaneity as he described a day when a news crew comes to the hospital to interview a doctor or nurse. He explained that they have to greet the crew, show them around, and introduce them to the person they are going to interview. This process, O'Connor stated, can take two hours out of your day.

O'Connor emphasized that he likes working with the media, and stated the he "enjoys the challenge of going to the newspaper and selling the story."

Working for the Information Department at Baystate Medical Center involved more than selling stories, O'Connor explained. His department is responsible for developing a crisis plan and following trends so they will know where the company is going in the future. O'Connor described this aspect of the job as being "the eyes and ears for your company's CEO." It is important to prepare your CEO for the changes that will be happening in the future, he interjected.

In addition, O'Connor's job requires community events, such as planning open houses, arranging and promoting the Lucky Duck Race in May, writing the CEO's speeches for the annual meetings, and writing pieces for health care journals.

O'Connor stated that public re-

See Public Relations, page 6

Interviewing Strategies

Tips from the Office of Career and Human Resources

What To Expect:

The interview is the most important step in the job search process. Interviewing can be scary if you don't know what to expect. Careful preparation is essential. An interview gives an organization the opportunity to find out more about you and also allows you to find out more about the organization.

Most initial interviews take 30 - 35 minutes and are structured. An interview may include:

- Ice Breaking: 2 - 5 minutes
- Interviewer's questions: 10 - 12 minutes
- Applicant's questions: 8 - 10 minutes
- Closing remarks: 2 - 3 minutes

Most interviewers are friendly and want you to feel relaxed. Questions about work experience, education, outside interests, strengths, and weaknesses will be asked. The interview is designed to answer three important questions:

- Can you do the job?
- Will you do the job?
- Can you work with other employees?

How To Prepare:

Know Yourself:

Know what kind of job you are looking for and why you are qualified. Before the interview, think about what you want the interviewer to know. Be able to discuss your expectations, career interests, education, and experience that supports your interest in the position.

Know the Organization:

Research the organization. Use the Career Resource Library and D'Amour Library to locate information on the organization's size, location(s), product(s), or service(s). Look for details relevant to the position you seek: job description, training, advancement paths, etc.

Anticipate Interviewer's Questions:

All interviews are different. It is important to be honest and to give complete answers, but do not criticize previous employers, professors, fellow students, etc. when answering questions. Try to give concrete examples of past experiences that demonstrate skills and qualities that are pertinent to the position you are interviewing for. Remember that when you use specific examples the interviewer can better imagine you actually doing the job. Stay focused and don't ramble. Answer each question with confidence, interest, and enthusiasm.

Treat the Process Seriously:

First impressions matter. An interview starts before you even say hello. Know the interviewer's name. Interviewers will be impressed by candidates who are on time, polite, dressed professionally, and well-organized. You should have a copy of your resume and any samples of your work available.

Your non-verbal behavior is also important to an interviewer. You should have a firm handshake, use direct eye contact, and have good posture. Avoid any distracting mannerisms. Don't wear perfumes or colognes. Excessive makeup or jewelry may also be distracting.

Ask Thorough Questions:

When the recruiter asks, "Now do you have any questions?" the best way to blow the interview is to say, "No, you've answered everything I need to know." You should have at least five or six intelligent, well-thought-out-questions. The questions you ask will show that you are looking out for yourself and that you are seriously interested in the organization and need more information. It may indicate to an interviewer that you have done some research.

Never ask questions about salary or benefits. If the interviewer asks what salary you expect, ask what the standard salary for your qualifications is. The interviewer should throw out a figure. If you've done your homework, you will know if this figure is appropriate. If the figure is what you want, grab it. If the figure is too low, explain your financial situation and research, then try to negotiate an increase.

When the interview is over, offer a firm handshake, smile, and thank the interviewer for his/her time. Tell the interviewer that you really want this job and ask if you could call sometime the following week to see if a decision has been made. It is a good idea to ask for the interviewer's business card.

Follow-up:

After every interview, regardless of your interest in the position, it is important to send a typewritten, thank-you letter.

How Can C&HR Help?

If you have questions or concerns about any aspect of the interview process, please stop by or call Career and Human Resources. A counselor would be happy to conduct a video-taped mock interview and discuss the process with you. This is a wonderful way to fine tune your skills. We hope to see you soon!

Club Corner

A Successful Semester

by Brandy Wester

The Marketing Association visited Sturbridge Village in late October and met with its Marketing Director, who spoke with the Association about the various marketing ventures they would like to become involved with.

Another issue discussed was the different sources of competition of Sturbridge and their high dependence on the weather.

After the meeting, students enjoyed a relaxing stroll back into the 1820s, judged a scarecrow contest, and ended the evening with dinner at Rohm's Restaurant.

On November 8, the Marketing Association's luncheon featured Western New England College alumnus Gary Lantaigne. He developed a company logo in the desktop application class. Lantaigne then built a real company based on his logo. Since last year, the company, Sun Sports, has had a 57% increase in profits, which Lantaigne assured is almost unheard of today and continues to enjoy success.

The Marketing Association has bigger plans for next semester. If you would like more information, contact Dave Kubera at 796-4345.

Currently, meetings are on Tuesdays at 1:00 in Emerson 108.

What's Happening with Helping Hands

by Alicia Keating

Helping Hands is a volunteer organization dedicated to helping the less fortunate in the Springfield area.

The club is advised by Reverend O'Brien and led by junior social work major Jenn Beck and senior psychology major Amy Brancatelli. Stacie Krugar and Sunshyne Parks are also crucial to the club's success, but Helping Hands would not be the club it has become without all of its devoted members. Numerous students around campus have given their hands and hearts, not to mention their time, to the various events held throughout the semester.

Helping Hands volunteers are committed to a variety of different organizations, including the Ronald McDonald House and Between Family and Friends.

A canned food drive was held in the campus center to collect non-perishable food items for the Ronald McDonald house, and contributions from both students and faculty made it successful.

Another contribution, made to the Ronald McDonald House by Chris McMahon and the fourth floor of Franklin Hall, was the donation of four jugs of soda can tabs. These tabs are beneficial for extending the amount of time a child can stay on dialysis, which can be very costly.

> **"Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much."**
> ***~ Helen Keller***

A number of Helping Hands members volunteered to set up a haunted house during Halloween for the children of Between Family and Friends. With much hard work, the haunted house was a success.

In mid-October, a Crop-Walk was held in Springfield, and the members of the Helping Hands Society helped to raise over $300 for the cause.

If you want more information on our upcoming events, or would like to know more about our organization, please do not hesitate to call Jenn at 796-4149.

Shanekha Young: Portrait of a Volunteer

by Wayne Barr

When the much-publicized Presidents' Summit for America's Future gathered in Philadelphia last April, freshman Shanekha Young was there as a Springfield delegate. She was also a delegate for October's Massachusetts' volunteerism summit, "The Promise of Our Youths."

Both events set goals for communities and featured prominent politicians and celebrities who heralded the call for greater involvement in community services.

For Young, however, volunteering is not about publicity, personal attention, or even a well-rounded resume. A volunteer at Springfield's Save Our Kids Inner City Youth Center since 1995, she has been influenced by a voice more personal and powerful than that of four American Presidents: her mother's.

"In the summer of '95 my mother was out of work," Young said, "and she wanted to make good use of her time. So she joined the Youth Center — and she enjoyed it." It was not long before Young and her sister, LaToya, began volunteering with their mother. Now, two years later, Young is a peer leader, a trained mediator, and a tutor for the Youth Center. Her sister, 16, is an assistant.

Except for five years spent in Georgia, Young grew up in Springfield — the oldest daughter of a single-parent family. A resident of Mason Square, Young often found herself surrounded by drug deals, homelessness, and gangs.

"Basically that whole neighborhood was full of gangs," she said, shaking her head. When gang members asked her to join, she declined. "It never interested me ... and when I said 'no,' they just left me alone."

Young's work at the Youth Center and her extracurricular activities caught the attention of a Commerce High School guidance counselor, who nominated Young for an "Eyes on the Prize" award, which she received in February of 1997.

At the award ceremony she was recommended to be on the ballot for the Springfield delegation for the upcoming Presidents' summit in Philadelphia. Not surprisingly, she was approved, and in April Young attended, going to sessions which focused on issues such as health insurance and immunization, the development of marketable skills in young people, community service, the institution of "safe places" to which young children may go after school, and the training of mentors who can help peers with homework as well as personal problems.

The point of such conferences, Young pointed out, is to help existing programs and resources. Facilities like the Youth Center for which Young works are already part of many communities, but "some kids don't know a lot about them."

Young is currently helping with a local summit to be held in late February or early March, and trying to get more youths — particularly students at Western New England College — to volunteer.

"It's hard to get volunteers to stay," she said. "Some people get overwhelmed ... but once you come into a kid's life it's important to stay committed."

Since the media blitz of the Presidents' Summit, public awareness of community services and the needs of young people has increased substantially. According to Young, more people have offered to volunteer through United Way since President Clinton and ex-Presidents Bush, Carter, and Ford touted volunteerism last April, but as she pointed out, whether they will follow through with a commitment is unclear. "We'll see later on in the future," she said.

Although she regards such summit conferences as both important and inspirational, Young's heart is in volunteering itself. Dealing with the problems of and confrontations between 6-year-old to 15-year-old children is not always easy, but Young has worked proficiently and is now the oldest youth volunteer at the Inner City Youth Center.

"I mediate out of love," she said. "If I can't handle a problem [with the children] I'll bring it to a higher authority ... but I've been able to handle them all so far." With a pause and a smile, she added, "I haven't had a kid who didn't like me."

"Some of the things I can relate to," Young said of the problems she encounters at the Youth Center, "but others I can't. I pray with them, give them a shoulder to cry on ... prayer really helps."

In addition to her work with the Save Our Kids Inner City Youth Center, Young is one of the busiest freshmen on campus. She is a member of the Psychology Club, United and Mutually Equal, CAB, and Helping Hands. She also works in the Arts and Crafts room during the week. A psychology major, she plans to attend graduate school, earn her Ph.D., and start her own practice.

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Public Relations

continued from page 3

lations experience and responsibility varies depending on the size of the company. He has been involved in instances where he was the only person working for the department and had direct access to the President and bigger companies where there are specified departments for each task.

"Media experience is the key to obtaining a public relations job," O'Connor told the members of the Communications Association. He also explained that good writing skills "are the basis of any job in this field," because public relations involves everything from writing letters to employees to writing articles for publication. He stated that it is important to know how to explain things clearly and sensitively.

In addition to his work at Baystate Medical Center, O'Connor writes entertainment reviews every week for the *Union News* and prepares the guidebook for the Big E.

Diversity

continued from page one

Jane Albert, Vice President of Advancement and Marketing, commented that there needs to be relationship building between the media and the College. Albert stated that "Dr. Caprio has brought more public relations" to the college and "opened doors to the community." She emphasized that this relationship is important to enable the minority community to welcome the information from the College.

Dr. Albert Pryor, the newly appointed Special Advisor to the President on Diversity Issues, added "I have no reason to believe...that the black community has been accepted here. I want to commend the college on this effort."

Dorothy Pryor, a Professor Emeritus at Springfield Technical Community College, stated that the best advertisement for the college is the students themselves, adding that "more public relations will come from more minority students."

The Committee stated that "affordability is a key issue for all students," but it is important to provide financial aid for students of color because "they grow up in families below or near the poverty line."

Among the financial aid packages, which will consist of a yearly percentage of $75,000, are merit scholarships for students who graduate with high grade point averages. Caprio pointed out that financial aid is being evaluated more broadly, and the College is looking at ways they can aid everyone. He emphasized this statement by adding that the December 2 Trustees' meeting is an extended meeting geared specifically toward financial aid.

Among other topics discussed were ways the College community can be educated in dealing with diversity issues both in and out of the classroom. Dr. Charles Fish, Associate Professor of English, emphasized the importance of this by stating, "If the classroom experience isn't right, we can't keep the students — even if we do attract them

Diversity Committee Members

Emmett Barcalow (Faculty and Co-Chairperson)
Gary Barnes (Director of Public Safety)
Leonard Baynes (Faculty, Law School)
Yvonne Bogel (Director of Diversity and Co-Chairperson)
George Caulton (Faculty, Social Work)
Jessica Daigle (Student, Law School)
Richard DiRuzza (Dean of Students)
Anil Gulati (Assistant Dean, School of Business)
Andrea Hachey (Student, Undergraduate School)
Christopher Ijima (Faculty, Law School)
Dawn Johnson (Associate Director of Admissions)
Vergie Lee (Benefits Administrator, Career and Human Resources)
Sonia Martinez (Staff Assistant, Downtown Campus)
Gregory Michael (Director, Career and Human Resources)
Silvia Perez (Student, Law School)
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What's Your Style?

by Jennifer Hastings and Bonni Alpert
Student Disability Services

Everyone learns, to some degree, by hearing, seeing, and doing — learning is generally not an either/or situation. However, most people tend to have a preferred mode of learning; that is, they tend to feel most comfortable taking in information by visual, auditory, tactile, or kinesthetic means. Becoming familiar with your own particular learning style will help you approach your studies and exams more strategically.

If you are an auditory learner, you study best through sounds and rhythms. Lectures, therefore, may be a useful way for you to gather and retain important facts and information. You may have difficulty with a visually oriented instructor who hands out a lot of written material and reading assignments. To compensate for this you can develop study groups and have classmates discuss the readings. You can also dictate main points from your readings onto cassette tapes and then listen to the tapes.

If you are a visual learner you learn best through visual images or symbols. Reading and looking at charts, diagrams, and pictures may be the way you tend to acquire information. You may experience trouble with an in-

structor who does not use handouts, emphasize class discussion, or write much on the board. To improve your grades you can take good notes on lectures, compare notes with a study group or other classmates, and ask your instructor for suggested reading material that would increase your knowledge of that subject.

Tactile learners learn best through touch. Writing things down may be the way that you learn something. If this is the case, there are several options you have in order to increase your learning ability. First, you can copy over the notes you took during class. You can also write out major ideas and concepts before an exam.

Kinesthetic learners learn best through doing. Simulations and dramatizations of information may be a useful way to help you gather and retain information. These types of learners may have difficulty with instructors who teach primarily through lectures and reading. Helpful tips for these types of students are to organize study groups, rehearse potential questions that might be on tests, or take classes that have labs.

If you have a documented learning disability or you suspect that you might have one, or if you are having severe difficulty processing information either verbally or visually, feel free to conduct the Student Disabilities Services (SDS) or Bonni Alpert at 782-1528.

Sir Martin Gilbert

continued from page one

years working on the Winston Churchill biography. Randolph Churchill, the son of Winston Churchill, began the painstaking process of amassing as much information about his father as he could. Gilbert was on Randolph Churchill's biography team. After Churchill died Gilbert took over the process and became the official Winston Churchill biographer. To date Gilbert has published eight volumes on Churchill covering the years 1914-1965. Gilbert has also written two other books on Churchill. In addition to the Churchill biography Gilbert has published more than thirty books dealing with various topics. Gilbert was knighted in 1995 for his efforts in the work he has accomplished as a historian and an author.

The lecture that Gilbert gave was interesting because he read sections of the book that were extremely emotional. Spoken in a literary tone, Gilbert's words were charged with the emotions on a period of world history that many would like to forget. Gilbert told many stories, like the one in which the Germans marched into Poland as a Jewish father assured his son that their presence will be okay — that the Germans were going to change things. The child was the only member of his family to survive. Stories like these really affected many of the people in the lecture room. As I looked out on the audience I saw many people shaking their heads in disbelief. Some of the people in the audience were survivors of the Holocaust and I could tell by looking at them that the pain they felt those many years ago was still with them. There was one man sitting on the other side of the room who appeared to be in his seventies or eighties. As Gilbert read from the book the man looked off into another direction, as if remembering those years in his life when he suffered. After the lecture I tried to approach the man but I was unable to talk to him. I never found out if he was a survivor of the Holocaust or not.

Holocaust Journey: Traveling in Search of the Past spans a two-week period, but it also spans more than 50 years of memories.

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Still Down Under

Professor Bowdan's Journey Continues

by **Professor Janet Bowdan**

When you go to New Zealand," my friend who'd been there instructed, "skip the North Island and go straight to the South." I hadn't even realized New Zealand was two separate islands. I checked the map. My plane was landing in Auckland, which is close to the top of the North Island. I told my friend that. "Well, go straight down to Wellington and take the ferry across," she said. "Don't bother about Rotarua." Rotarua was on the way, and the guidebooks enthused about Maori dances and thermal geysers. "Bubbling mud," my friend said. Somehow she made it sound less intriguing than in the guidebooks.

I did spend two days in Auckland. The first morning I got lost looking for breakfast until I recognized familiar buildings: a university! You can't imagine the relief. I looked for the English department and found the poet I'd been e-mailing just as he'd finished handing in grades and was about to take a ferry across the harbor. He showed me a path down from the university through a park with beautiful, ancient trees, past the Art Museum, to a cafe: breakfast at last. Then we walked down through the city, past a bookstore he recommended, to the ferry where I waved him off. I stayed at the harbor to soak up sun—it was winter, but still 20 degrees warmer than Melbourne. Then I tried to retrace my steps and got lost again. I didn't panic: I decided I didn't want to go to a bookstore; I wanted to go to the Domain, a huge park with old trees and winding trails and the Imperial War Memorial Museum at the top of the hill. Also, unlike the bookstore, it was on my map, so I found it. (I went back to the bookstore later.)

New Zealand has a population of 3 million: 1 million live in Auckland. They are almost all incredibly nice, and they almost all warn you to be careful traveling because it can be dangerous traveling alone these days, and if you need any help, call them; here's their number; they'll be right over to rescue you.

I took an overnight bus from Auckland down to Wellington: we went past Rotarua in the dead of night, and I could see steam rising from the bubbling mud and smell the solfur. It was certainly atmospheric. The bus arrived at 6 a.m.; the ferry to the South Island left at 8 a.m., and I was expecting to be too tired to appreciate much. The scenery woke me up. For almost three hours, we went through breathtakingly gorgeous Sounds—bays with islands, and each island had rolling mountains, and the mountains were vivid greens on one side of the ship and olive greens on the other; the water was the color of jade, the sky cobalt blue. I took five rolls of film. I kept crossing from one side of the ferry to the other so I wouldn't miss anything, and then I'd see the view from the stem, and I'd take photos of that, too.

The South Island improved from there. I took a bus which wound across mountains to the Abel Tasman National Park, where an aquataxi dropped me off on a beach so I could hike. The path started off on clifftops overlooking the sea, through temperate rainforest green with moss and treeferns, and streams everywhere. Then it tomed into pine forest, and then beach again, with a double rainbow just as I stepped into the open.

I took a bus down the West coast, where I saw geysers and rock formations striated like layers of crepes next to a stormy Tasman Sea; at sunset I got off the bus and looked up at the Franz Josef Glacier. I don't know why I climbed it. I went with a group and a guide: I wore hobnail boots and wielded a pickaxe, and I still managed to slip four times into very beautiful, very icy, pale blue glacial pools. We climbed, we gaped at crevasses in disbelief and then jumped over them, we admired the glittering pinnacles and slithered through them, we tried to help each other get up or across or finally, thank God, down, where I slipped one last time into a sort of riverbed of crushed ice. Seven hours. I wouldn't do it again. But I'm glad I did it.

The next day I went to Lake Matheson, which reflects the Fox Glacier and Mt. Cook, and I walked around it on a lovely, flat, stable boardwalk; afterwards I had a very civilized tea and wrote postcards, giving the bruises a chance to turn different shades of blue and green, yellow and purple.

New Zealand has a range of mountains call the Southern Alps, and the train route that crosses them into the Canterbury Plains on the way to Christchurch is supposed to be one of the most picturesque in the world. It had snowed two days before, so the mountains were dusted with white; nice, I thought as we headed into them, but the Rockies are more impressive. Then the sun started to go down: it was winter solstice, the shortest day of the year. The mountains glowed pink in the sunset, and the train was snaking around the edge of a ravine. At the bottom, the Broken River gleamed. The train went through a tunnel, and when we came out, I could have sworn we were in an Ansel Adams photograph: a full moon, white mountains against a dark sky, and the river coiled below us.

It was too dark to see any of the sheep the postcards show munching on the Canterbury plains, but sheep covered the hillsides on the way up to Kaikoura the next morning. Kaikoura has black beaches; it has mountains; it has a seal colony; it has dolphins sometimes, and orcas that eat the dolphins sometimes, and it has albatrosses and sperm whales (how literary can you get?), and boats that go out to watch everything, so I went out to watch everything.

And I will go back. I still have to see the North Island.

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December 9th, 7 - 9:00 p.m.

Alumni Celebration
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Please contact Sally Jo
in the Alumni Relations Office
(782-1327) for more information or to sign up.

Committee Members:
Brian Noel & Mike Wiersma

Ask Marilyn

Dear M~

I like this girl who has a boyfriend that lives an hour away. He is in high school. What should I do?

Dear Lover#2~

Seems unfortunate for you to fall for a 'girl' that is already taken. It doesn't matter if her boyfriend is high school or college, she is still taken, and therefore, off limits! Now, don't get me wrong, you can still tell her how you feel about her and see how things progress from there. I don't recommend trying to break them apart for the following reasons: 1) If you do this she may resent you for it [I don't see any respect coming out of this, 2) If she breaks things off with him that means she'll be on the rebound — you don't want to get into a relationship with her that way [they are usually short and messy!] and finally, 3) It is just wrong! The best advice I can give you my friend, is to talk to her, tell her how you feel — getting it out in the open may make all the difference. Maybe, if you're lucky, she feels the same way and has been waiting for you to speak your mind. On the other hand don't be surprised if she says "I'm sorry I love Marc. I hope this doesn't affect our relationship and we can remain friends ..." One way or another, you at least have a chance to share how you feel with her, get it off your chest and be proactive about the whole situation.

Dear M~

As a leader of a campus organization, I feel that our club has not been able to sponsor any events — the budget we received was merely a few pennies for the whole year. I'm not the only individual, or club, to feel this way. I would love to offer many interesting and educational activities for our college's community, but I feel that Student Senate will not let that happen.

I do not understand how an organization like CAB gets 50% of the club and organization's budget money, while the other 99 clubs and organizations are left to scramble for the leftover pennies and nickels.

I can see why the average student is a upset. There is nothing to do on this campus because CAB gets nearly $100 out of our $200 activities fee, making it hard for other organizations to sponsor anything.

I really don't want to bash CAB, but I'd like to know when the last time CAB asked the students what events and activities interest them? I feel that CAB has not offered our community nearly as much as they should for the amount of money they receive in their budget. When was the last time we had a concert???

I'm sure 80% of the students here would agree with me: What are we paying the $200 for? So CAB and Senate can do what they would like to do and the rest of us are stuck scrounging for money?

No one wants to join these organizations because they're corrupt and nothing but a popularity contest. Isn't this something you find in high school? Isn't this system extremely unfair to the student body and the 99 other clubs and organizations who work extremely hard to make a difference?
~POed WNEC Student

Dear POed~

I know you are frustrated and I understand where you are coming from. Time and time again, clubs and organizations that I have been a part of have had to struggle with the budget money allotted to them each year. So I did a little snooping around and gathered a few facts and solutions for you. I hope this helps:

CAB receives 30% of the total activities fee allotted to clubs and organizations, not 50%. We have 39 clubs funded by Student Senate [as of this year's figures], not 99. The interest survey you asked about is done at the beginning of each semester and CAB is currently planning their next survey right now for next semester. As for your organization not having enough money for the year, I was told that you should go back to Student Senate for a mini grant to get your organization through the rest of the year. Another option would be to co-sponsor an event with CAB.

I know these answers may not make you happy, but regarding the predicament your organization is in, it is the best I could do. If you want to bring a formal complaint to CAB or provide them with constructive criticism, they have open meetings on Wednesdays at 4:00pm. Go and ask for a mini-grant and GOOD LUCK!

Dear M~

I'm incredibly outgoing, but as a commuter I find it difficult to make friends on campus. Everyone seems to be in their own clique. What can I do about this?

Dear Outgoing~

I wholeheartedly understand what you are talking about. It does seem hard for commuters and transfer students to make a substantial amount of friends especially since cliques begin to be established freshman year. The only sound advice I can give you would be to join some of our many clubs on campus, go to as many on campus events as you can, and keep your fingers crossed. Personally speaking I try to talk to as many people as possible -- who cares if I don't know them or not. Maybe they think I'm a fool, but whatever they think I do know that I created a wide circle of friends in the process. It is hard to be left out of the loophole, but maybe if you make an extra effort to hang around campus and attend club sponsored activities you may have more luck. Oh, and don't forget about intermural sports, working out in the AHLC, and sitting around in the cafeteria or snack bar.

> ***...but as a commuter I find it difficult to make friends...***

Dear M~

I am a 21-year-old female and a wealthy man [twice my age] has shown interest in me. He often brings me gifts and says he's falling in love with me. I like him just fine, and he's attractive enough, but the money is the real allure. Should I go for it?

Dear Distracted~

You are young, and he is old enough to be your father. Does money really mean that much to you? You said you like him "just fine," to me that sounds like a sad and boring life in the future. How can you even think about marrying someone you like "just fine"? And as for the "attractive enough" part, I don't even know if I should touch that one. Ultimately, you need to sit back and look at the whole situation here: you are young (21), in college, you find this man to be "just fine" and "attractive enough.... Have I painted a poor enough picture for you yet. If you just wanted to marry for money then why are you in college in the first place. They make movies about this kind of predicament and the person in your position usually ends up unhappy and bitter. As you can see, I am not too keen on you getting into a relationship just because you love the money. Money IS what makes the world go 'round, but it's not what should make your heart happy. So, the bottom line on this one is this: I don't approve. Date him, but don't marry him unless you love him for what's inside his head and heart, not what's inside his wallet!

> ***...we have a bunch of incompetent people "organizing" our class...***

Dear M~

I'm a very disappointed and frustrated Senior. I'm disappointed because this is supposed to be the best year during college careers, but it hasn't been and I don't see that changing.

I'm frustrated because we have a bunch of incompetent people "organizing" our class. Some of them only have their hand in the pot so they can add their useless title to their resume.

Seniors wonder why nothing is going on...Well, maybe our 'officers' should start by getting the class together, and have a meeting. And for god sake, LET US KNOW! [Advertise: e-mail, banner, invitations etc...Don't just use flyers the night of the meeting. Give us some notice!]

On several occasions I have asked to help out, but I've been told that "they" don't need any help. The funny thing is that when an event comes along again and again, it is a FLOP! Can we impeach?
~Aggravated

Dear Aggravated~

You have posed a tough problem here for me [and I thank you for the challenge.] As I see it, one of the biggest issues here is the fact that Seniors have no idea about class events till the last minute, due to lack of planning and advertising, and the turnout ends up being pathetic in the end. I don't know about impeaching, but maybe resigning voluntarily might be a good idea.

I really don't know what to say to you, it seems as though you have tried to help [not just sit back and complain like so many] and you still have not seen results. Senior year IS suppose to be a blast and remembered always, unfortunately for you [and many others] it WILL be remembered as "a FLOP!"

Keep your chin up Aggravated, maybe after Winter Break things will change.....

Marilyn is Western New England College's very own Advice Columnist.

Clip, Fold and Send to Box 1419 Clip, Fold and Send to Box 1419 Clip, Fold and Send to Box 1419

Ask Marilyn

Darling, do you have a problem? Ask me anything you want.

Correcting You. You're Wrong.

I'm writing in response to "I'm Getting More Out of College Than You Are," by Christopher Service, Jr. (*the Westerner*, November). I found the article to be rather one-sided. While painting a picture of college life, Service made some pretty broad statements about the outlook of students today.

You seem to be getting a lot out of college, Mr. Service. I don't doubt that. But for some students a little is more than they have had before. And while it may seem they don't care about their futures, give them a chance to see that there is one out there.

Try to think back to when you were a freshman. I am sure you didn't have everything planned out ahead of time.

Keep in mind that some people have not yet experienced the things you have.

While college is in fact the "miniature model of the wider world," we all can't see the end from where we stand. Some of us are just trying to make it day-by-day in this new world. Some of us here may be a little lost and scared, and college is giving us a chance to find ourselves.

Don't you think it's better that we do that here in what I like to call the "practice world" rather than in the "real world?" In college we have the opportunity to try things and learn from them. We take the consequences with us for the future. That's what it's all about. When we're out there in the 'real world,' we will know what's important and what to steer clear of because of our experiences.

College is a learning experience by far. We all taste some things we've longed for, while other things we wish we could take back in the end. You don't have to be from a different race or culture to realize that most of what you experience here at college is new. Not only for you, but for everyone around you as well.

It's not all about parties, drinking, and mindless babble. It's about team work, understanding, and learning. It's about making friends, reaching goals, and gaining insight from your mistakes. The way we learn about such things may be different for everyone. We all have a different way of listening and learning, whether it's through our own or other people's experiences. One day it will all become clear. All this craziness we call "the best times of our lives," will teach us more about ourselves than we ever thought possible.

I have been here long enough to see the hypocrisy and misunderstanding within people. I have seen and perhaps felt more than I thought I could have. In the beginning it was all fun and games, getting drunk, meeting people, and slacking off. I have learned more about myself and my own body and mind than I would have by just joining the working force right out of high school or paying all my attention to clubs and school work.

That's what I needed—a dose of failure and reality to what was out there—to realize how much I had never experienced. I have also looked further and have seen the fear within others—fear of rejection, failure, and all the new things in store for them. It is overwhelming to say the least.

I am not saying that you should spend all your time partying, nor am I promoting the thought that you should not get involved in campus activities and clubs. Lack of involvement certainly does not constitute failure but it does not help you grow either.

Western New England College offers clubs and organizations to its students. I personally recommend them to anyone who can take the time to join. I have not been involved in many, but I see that they offer support and friendship with people who share interests with you. They offer a different outlook on college life and give students the opportunity to see that they, too, can become leaders as well as be heard on campus.

If I could take it all back, I don't know if I would change anything. I may add things though. If I could do it again, I would join clubs to gain moral and peer support. I would not, however, take back the fact that I did party. And while sometimes I may have partied a bit too much, I did learn from it.

I could lecture you on the dangers of choosing the crooked path and tell you how stupid you look stumbling over your own feet on your Friday night walk back to the dorm; or how loud you are when you're drunk and that you'll regret it someday. But you won't listen.

You need to be there for yourself to learn. Just like most of us, you can be told a thousand times that the choices you're making are not in your best interest, but you still do it just to see. If someone would have told me when I was a freshman that I was making the wrong choices, I would have laughed in their face—not because they were wrong, but because deep down, in a scared, dark place, I knew they were right.

This is the reality of it. Straight and simple. You cannot categorize such a wide variety of people and say we don't care about our futures or what we are getting out of college. You're not going to get people to listen to you by criticizing or generalizing them.

Surely you are not going to motivate people by speaking at them as if you were better than them. You need to level with people and speak with them. In the end, we will all get what we need out of it. It takes time to learn.

Before going off to school, someone said to me, "In four years you won't recognize yourself!" At the time, I put the thought in the back of my mind. But I can see now how true that statement really is.

To all the students involved in campus clubs and activities, I look up to you. You are the foundation of what college should be. Your leadership will take you many wonderful places. To all those who have found alternate routes to partying or drinking, I envy you. To all of you like me—afraid, lost, confused, and still looking for answers—be strong. Take the time to look at your life and how you act; find your strength and use it. Take everything you have been through so far in life and make it that much better. Your strength will teach you the value of life. If in a year, two, or even five from now, you can say that you learned at least one new thing about yourself or reached one goal that you set while attending college, be proud. You're getting something—a taste of Life.

Anonymous

Do you have a complaint? Do you want to praise someone or something? Just want to let you opinion be known?
Write an Editorial!
Speak Your Mind!

Editorials

December 1997

Westerner Editorial Policies:

~ Editorials and Letters to the Editor should be submitted to the Publications Office and should include author's name, address, and phone number. If you wish to remain anonymous, indicate reason with submission. (NOTE: We still must know who wrote the article)
~ The opinions here do not necessarily represent the Westerner, its staff, or Western New England College.
~ All quotes and stories must be legitimate (the Westerner staff reserves the right to contact those quoted to ensure authenticity).
~ The Westerner staff reserves the right to withhold editorials due to controversial material.
~ The Westerner strives to uphold libel laws and produce integrity.

Editor's Note: All Editorials must abide by the **Westerner Editorial Policies** (listed above). If you wish to remain anonymous, you must submit a written reason to the Editor, and you must include your name and contact information for Westerner files.

Registration Chaos

The week of registration for the spring '98 session was one that I will not forget. I spent more than three hours trying to track down department chairpersons to get waivers signed so that I could be admitted into a class. The reason for this, as most students found, is that the class limits were set at ridiculously low numbers. One reason I chose to attend Western New England College was that the class sizes were relatively small, unlike those of the University of Massachusetts, where there can be over 100 students in a class. But to set the class size at ten seats for a day class is a little extreme.

What I found most disconcerting was the reaction from the faculty advisors. They seemed to have a look of pity and frustration. The faculty seemed to feel bad for the students that could not enroll in the classes they either needed or wanted. The frustration came from the fact that it was one of their own classes that was being closed out to only ten seats.

As a student of the School of Business, I can't help but wonder what kind of message the administration is sending to the future leaders of the business world. If production managers ever scheduled their production workers in the same manner that the classes were scheduled, they would be collecting pink slips instead of yellow (class seat override) slips.

Every marketing class I have taken has emphasized the point that customer satisfaction is the number one priority of the company. The textbooks also stress that it is essential that companies build long-term relationships with their consumers. Some may disagree, but as a student I have yet to see customer satisfaction questionnaires asking me how I feel about the way the school has met my needs. One may feel that the scheduling of classes for the spring semester is a new type of marketing strategy, keeping students here longer by not offering seniors the required classes or the space in those classes so they can graduate. I truly hope that this is not the case.

Like all institutions of higher education, WNEC relies on enrollment and alumni contributions to be able to prove quality service. This is accomplished by satisfied customers referring others and making contributions in a way of saying thank you for your services. This is one future alumnus that will be very reluctant to make a contribution to this school.

Ken Bazanchuk

What the College Lacks

by Kristen Plant, Jaime Smith, Anthony Veli, Paul Duchaine, Tom Extine

There are many reasons why a student would want to come to Western New England College. It is a small yet beautiful school. The classes are designed to fit the students' needs, the dorms are surprisingly nicer than those of the large state universities, and there seems to be a good time had by all. Yet, many feel the campus lacks something. Perhaps it is something that could add to the social aspects of student life, or it could be an area designed specifically to meet students' academic needs. That is our question. What does WNEC lack?

The school has basic facilities that can usually be found on most campuses; however, in addition it also has an empty building. It is a structure that has gone without use for five years. The Rivers Gym has been empty too long. It is time the students began thinking of what is needed. As WNEC students, we are the main voice of the campus and should hope to make our school, and our home, one that we want to return to.

We interviewed 50 members of the students and faculty population. Many of the responses were quite similar. The general consensus was that all seemed quite ready to see an improvement made with this building. Yet, many had the same questions: when, how, and what? The target questions revolved around those concerns. Do you know where the Rivers Gym is located? Do you feel our campus lacks a major resource for our residents? What can be done to help raise money and solve this dilemma? The students and faculty gave us their answers...and now we give them to you.

Primarily, we wanted to ensure that the interviewee was aware of the location of this building. Ninety-five percent of those interviewed knew exactly where the building was. On the other hand, answers varied when asked about the current use of the old Gym. About 80% said they knew it had been briefly inhabited by intramural floor hockey players, but that was all. Ten percent said they assumed it was storage area, and the remaining ten percent only shrugged with no idea it was even being used at all. The main idea here was to inform students that there actually is a large facility left vacant and to create thinking about why WNEC has left it alone for so long.

Next, we inquired about the basic "nitty-gritty." We asked *the* question. What does WNEC need? The answers varied from a study hall, theater, and even an on-campus bar. The majority of students felt as though a café/study area would be the best use. Many also felt it could be combined into an area where the school could begin its way to much wanted music and performing arts programs. Some other suggestions included a new dorm, the introduction of "Greek life" with a fraternity or sorority house, and finally an ice rink, which caused many smiles at the thought that students would begin to realize WNEC has a hockey team.

When a few faculty members were asked for their opinions, the range of answers grew. Some suggested multimedia improvement, while a coach proposed that the football team could use its own area for weights and other useful accommodations. Many of these ideas are surely shared by students. The fact is that this space is somewhat limited, and only one choice can be made. Will it be put to a vote? Only time will tell.

After talking the basics about the building, we moved on the financial aspects of renovation. When asking students if they would be willing to pay extra tuition, we were not approached with the same willingness as with earlier questions. Sixty percent said they would not be willing to pay extra money for the renovations. They felt the school should make arrangements for the handling of the costs. Forty percent replied that it would be fine to increase the tuition as long as the building was going to be "donated" for student purposes. The average amount of money that was quoted as a reasonable jump ranged around $200-$300.

Finally, we inquired about steps to help with the Rivers Gym's new purpose. This mainly centered around the students partaking in fundraising activities to help earn money. Ninety percent agreed that fundraising would be a necessary step and also said they would gladly help with the activities. Surprisingly enough, Jell-O-wrestling topped the chart of ideas. Many mentioned it had been done at their former high schools as a fundraiser and had been very successful. Next, concerts, carnivals, and fairs were mentioned. These were described as all-day events, with possibly more than one act in a day's course. There were even those who said many small things could be helpful and done each day in a week to raise money. Some of these included a car wash, raffle, T-shirt sale, dance, flea market, special dinner or breakfast, and even a bowl-a-thon.

Our last question asked when WNEC should begin work on renovation in this area. One hundred percent stated: "ASAP!" All agreed that we should take action now. Any fundraising that can be done should begin tomorrow, all ideas should be thought through tomorrow, and all students should get involved today!

It is time to add on, to increase, to improve. The students have stated their concerns, their ideas, and their enthusiasm. The question is no longer about what WNEC lacks, but merely what is WNEC going to do about attaining its needs for the purpose of our small community. We have some ideas, do you?

I Am, and I Could Be Your Friend!

My friend had been asking me for weeks to give her an interview. I was apprehensive because it consisted of my disclosing my sexuality in a formal way. She told me she'd type it into a paper later. As the questions progressed I felt more and more comfortable. I really didn't pay much attention to the questions, but more thought was put in the answers, so when it was over I just walked away. When she finally gave the paper to me, I was shocked by the interpretation of me.

She states in her paper that as a heterosexual, she can relate to me when trying to find a date. She also points out that as a Latina, she's been ridiculed much the same way as I have for my homosexuality. She has felt shelter and lonely as a Latina here at Western New England College, and as a homosexual, so do I. On so did I.

I didn't grow up hiding my sexuality; adults just never talked about it. In high school it was taboo for me to walk, talk, or even dress the way I wanted. I have never been the kid from *My So-Called Life*, going into the girls bathroom and putting on eye-liner, but I am obvious. When I came to Western New England College, my peer advisor and almost every faculty and upperclassmen drilled in my head that the people I meet here would change my life *forever* ... no arguments there. I figured college would allow me to be who I want, how I want, when I want. And I have, but not without struggling. Sparing you the dramatics, from high school to college I've learned no one has maturity and I'm dealing with that. I can only be who I feel will make me happy first. I'm a 21 year-old virgin who has no desires to drink, smoke, or go to clubs ... yet. I'm still treated like I'm an alien.

I know people have their opinions, as I have mine, but can I ask everyone to try and be a little more tactful? The whispering and nods to each other, the winks you give each other, and the slight chuckles under your breath are not only immature, demeaning, and tacky, but also disrespectful: I have *never* condemned anyone for being heterosexual. I do, however, condemn hypocrites.

Hypocrite — someone who says one thing is wrong, yet does just that thing. This is my opinion of a hypocrite for the sake of this article. "Its a sin to be gay; God condemns that"... well, He condemns swearing, not going to church, never reading *The Bible*, lying, and premarital sex, and one of his 10 Commandments is "thou shalt not judge thy neighbor." I do believe in God; I do believe in Heaven and Hell. I don't believe you can tell me what I should do with my life or how I should run it. It sickens me to hear people quoting a book they've never read — but since one of their friends said it, then it must be true.

Well I hope that some of what I've expressed will be considered. I realize I can't change the world in one article, but I would just think people of all races, sex, color, creed, and sexual preferences different from yours would like to be judged by their personality first and foremost. This is why my name is here. Who knows — I could be your roommate, your best friend, or the person next to you in class. I want you to picture one of these people coming up to you and admitting he/she is gay, and then reread this article.

Final thought:
If college reflects who your co-workers are (with their opinions on race, sexual preference, etc.), then college reflects who your boss might be. What if your boss is black or Hispanic, gay, or obese?

Anonymous

Do You Need Advice?

Check Out Our Campus *Advice Columnist.*

(Ask Marilyn, page 9)

December Issue 11 12/2/97, 6:09 PM

The Economy

Although the economy is remarkable strong, many economists feel this will not last much longer. The Federal Government can control interest rates and money supply — of which they have been doing a great job — but they cannot control employment. This leads me to believe that layoffs will occur when supply and demand even out, which will start a downward spiral of our economy, or at least a slowing.

Right now, due to a building binge throughout Asia, continuing expansion in the U.S., and recovering economies in Europe, production everywhere is running ahead of consumption. Currently there is too much supply. A mismatch occurring in an industry is not uncommon, and will sort itself out. But this mismatch is occurring in countless companies across industries. The problem is that companies investing to create supply are thinking there will be enough demand tomorrow. This, however can be dangerous. Although consumers have been spending 5.7% more annually, this increase probably cannot go on forever. Will consumers be able to keep up this spending, and how much can they actually buy?

In addition, some say that with the recent wild swings in the U.S. stock prices, along with uncertainty about the uninterrupted growth of the economy, may dampen consumers spending mood.

Another huge factor which may lead to a sour economy in America is the turmoil in Asia's economy. This has already had substantial impacts on America. The value of currency in Asia has dropped, causing Asian goods to be priced under American goods. For example, Fruit of the Loom has laid off 2000 American employees since it is cheaper to produce underwear in Asia. In addition, General Motors plans to close plants, which may be a direct result of a decrease in sales, and an increase in sales for Toyota, Nissan, and Honda (Toyota, by the way, now has the best selling car in America, the Camry.) Since industries are currently hiring and trying to play "catch up," they will come to a screeching halt once the demand they tried to create disappears.

But what does this mean? It means that companies have to cut prices on goods to move them of the shelves, and quickly, as consumers realize prices are falling. Consumers will then wait for prices to bottom out before they spend, creating the cycle of falling prices known as deflation. If businesses lower prices to get rid of inventories, they will lay people off, to make up for lost profits.

But what does this mean for the graduating classes of 1998, and 1999. Will college graduates be affected by lay-offs, and not get jobs, or will factory jobs be the only jobs affected?

Kevin Drozdowski

A Message From the Students

Alcohol Consumption On Campus

Did you know that the average student at Western New England College consumes between three to six drinks at a time, three to five times a week? Recently, six students from professor Nancy Hoar's Professional Communications course conducted a survey to determine the frequency and quantity of alcohol consumed by WNEC students. The information was collected because of their concern with the amount of alcohol consumption. The group also wanted to know how students' drinking was affecting their health and academics. The information collected from this survey is useful for the administration, faculty, student leaders, and most importantly the students of the college. Perhaps the survey's biggest achievement will be making students realize that excessive alcohol consumption can be an unnecessary obstacle in the college community.

The main questions posed to 60 random students throughout the college community dealt with the quantity and frequency of alcohol being consumed, the type of alcohol that is being consumed, the effects alcohol has had on students' health and academics, and binge drinking. The surveyors decided to concentrate on these topics because they felt that these areas were the most important and would be the most beneficial.

The information collected proved that alcohol consumption affects students' health and academics in a negative way. Many students have suffered illness or failed exams because of their alcohol consumption. Binge drinking on campus is extremely high. Overall, the questionnaire was very successful in bringing awareness to college students about the large quantity of alcohol they consume and the possible negative effects this may be having regarding their success as WNEC.

One important question of the survey was "what do you drink?" The group found that the number one answer was *both* beer and hard alcohol. Students who were surveyed said they drink beer because of its taste and accessibility. Those who preferred to drink hard liquor said that they enjoyed. Overall, the group study found that the majority of students on campus drink a lot of beer and hard alcohol. They claim that beer, however, is most often consumed at parties because of its accessibility and low cost.

Another part of the survey focused on binge drinking by college students. The group read a pamphlet by ETR Associates that presented 1997 statistics on binge drinking. It stated that "if you are a male and have five or more beers in a row within a two week period, you are considered binge drinking." Binge drinking for women is having four or more beers in a row within a two week period. Based on these figures, many students at WNEC fit the requirements of binge drinking. Most WNEC students said they drink three to six drinks in one sitting, three or more times a week. Most students said they drink "to get a buzz" or to get drunk. Many students said it takes an average of six to 12 beers in one night to get drunk. This demonstrates that binge drinking at WNEC is a serious problem. Students whose tolerance is very high may be in trouble. Binge drinking causes great health risks, financial problems, and possible dependency on alcohol.

The student group found that binge drinking on campus is the result of drinking games, drinking quickly, and using poor judgment. The group found that many students do not realize the full consequences of binge drinking. Many people become sick, black out, or experience more severe problems due to excessive drinking. Students at WNEC are no exception to these occurrences.

Dean DiRuzza, when asked if he noticed a direct relationship between the grades students receive and the frequency and quantity of alcohol they consume, said "absolutely." He also made a good point in stating that there are many alternatives to drinking, which is why the *WEEKENDER* is distributed to students.

The survey concluded that college students attending Western New England College tend to be conscientious of tests or quizzes — that is, if they do have a test or quiz they tend to go to class. However, if they do not have a quiz or exam, they tend to skip class. The percentage of students who miss any classes at all is 20%, which is not really that high. It may be that students find they need to attend class to be successful, or that they do not drink during the week, only on the weekends — this way, drinking will not interfere with their academic performance.

The health issues inherent in alcohol consumption imply that a very high percentage of WNEC students get sick. 45% of the people who took this survey said they have gotten sick from drinking alcohol. This means that there is a large amount of alcohol going into their blood streams — that a lot of students, in other words, are binge drinking.

Blackouts can be a common experience for people who have consumed a large amount of alcohol. Some 25% of the people who took this survey say they have blacked out when drinking. Blacking out is a serious matter, and those who experience it should consider drinking a danger.

Of the people who took the survey, 20% have had someone show concern about how frequently they drank. When confronted about it, all acted surprised.

Almost 50% of the students, including those who do not drink, said they have an alcohol related problem with their family. This is a fairly high percentage and may explain why some students do not drink and why other students drink excessively.

The most important part of the survey was to determine the frequency and quantity of alcohol consumption. The goal was to see if more students drink than do not. The data collected showed that more students do, in fact, consume alcohol today.

Of the 60 people interviewed, 40 drank on the weekend and the rest drank throughout the week. This suggests that although students are involved with alcohol, most are taking the responsibility of waiting until the weekend, demonstrating an awareness of the importance of their education.

The next part of the survey was to find out how many times a week students drank. Although most students drank on the weekend, it was still important to discover how many times a week. Thirty-five students chose to drink one to three times a week. 15 choose to drink three to five times a week. Only ten choose to drink five to seven times a week.

The majority of the students interviewed said their alcohol intake has increased since attending WNEC. However, 10 said that it had not increased, while another 10 said that it stayed the same.

The final question focused on quantity. 30 students claimed they had one to six drinks a night, 20 students averaged six to 12. Ten students drank about 12 or more in one night.

The questionnaire provided a lot of new and somewhat surprising information about student drinking at WNEC. One surprising finding was the number of students who experienced blackouts; another was the on-average amount of alcohol consumed by an individual student. Other than these, however, there were no entirely unpredictable answers.

The most obvious answer, perhaps, was that beer is the most popular alcoholic beverage consumed by students. Also unsurprising was that the weekends are the days in which students consume alcohol the most, and that most students who drink alcohol have gotten sick as a result at one time or another.

Mike Bakaysa, Emily Bartholomew, Heidi Kapher, Ken Lezipp, Betty Sexton, Brett Sanelli

December 1997

Arts & Entertainment

Scott Paparcuri and Joe Macken perform at CAB's comedy Night.

It's All About Comedy

by Anne-Marie Gravel and Andrea D. Higgins

"I'd like to make an announcement: There is a 1976 Chevy Nova, license plate number 2546 FP, your lights are not on ... your car is just a piece of s#*%. It's embarrassing the college ... could you please move your car before the end of the show?!"

On Wednesday, November 5, Scott Paparcuri, a radio personality for the all new Kiss in the morning: KISS 95.7 FM in Hartford, Conn., performed his 'One man comedy assault: It's all about me.'

Slinging insults at the school's food, complaining about gas prices in Connecticut, ripping apart the Kennedys, bemoaning the death of Lady Diana, and poking fun at Kato Kalin the professional house guest, Paparcuri had students laughing in the aisles.

"The reason I'm the funniest man in America is because on the radio you have to be funny every minute of the show. I'm off the cuff," Paparcuri boasted. Paparcuri was voted New York's 1996 Comedian of the Year.

When asked how he thought the night's show went, Paparcuri remarked, "It was a lot of fun for a college crowd." Later he added, "As good as it could have been."

"It's 10 dollars for a wash, a cut, and a blow," Joe Macken. Paparcuri's opening act, said about getting great haircuts for a low price. Besides haircuts, Macken warmed up the crowd with anecdotes on school buses, football, people who get caught in the rain, weird last names and descriptive food.

Paparcuri can be seen performing Saturday, December 6, at Husky Blues in Storrs, Conn. and Wednesday, December 17, at The Atomic Club in Hartford, Conn.

Originally from Long Island, Macken can be seen as a regular at Caroline's Comedy Club in New York City.

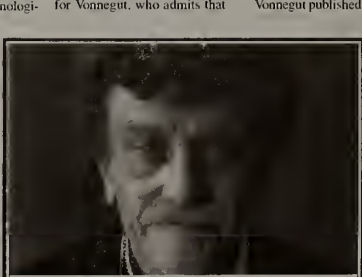
Goodnight, Vonnegut

by Wayne Barr

Kurt Vonnegut has been conspicuously absent from the world of publishing in last six years, occasionally surfacing in an American Express commercial or Absolut Vodka ad. He has been a guest speaker at graduation ceremonies, dispensing the only wise and sure advice remaining in the technological chaos of the post-postmodern world: "use sunscreen." Since *Hocus Pocus* and *Fates Worse Than Death*, however, Vonnegut has been, literarily speaking, silent.

Timequake, his latest and last novel, begins with a few pages of apologia and ends with a meager eulogy to the author's brother. Between is a pasticcio of narration, rumination, and lamentation — "a stew made from ... thoughts and experiences during the past seven months or so" and remnants of a failed novel of the same name that "wasn't fit for shark chum." There is in this a plot, or at least a premise: on February 13, 2001, the universe, "fibrillat[ing] with indecision," begins to shrink. The reader (and the author) need not have an extensive astronomical background to appreciate that this sudden, inexplicable phenomenon — the "timequake" — hurls everyone back ten years to February 17, 1991, at which point the universe just as inexplicably resumes its outward expansion. The nonspatial continuum of time being what it is, the inhabitants of earth are forced to relive the next ten years without free will, watching their lives with perfect and futile foresight, until a decade later, when free will finally "kicks in again."

Kilgore Trout resurfaces with his eclectic *oeuvre* of science fiction short stories and senile behavior. He is less a character than a literary shield for Vonnegut, who admits that "all I do with short story ideas now is rough them out, credit them to Kilgore Trout, and put them in a novel." *Timequake* is the novel of exhaustion implicit in Vonnegut's confession — not the exhaustion of literary form about which postmodernists like John Barth speculate — but simple creative exhaustion. "Most American novelists have done their best work [by fifty-five]," Vonnegut pleads. "Enough! Fifty-five is a long time ago for me. Have pity!"



photograph by Jill Krementz
1990 copyright, Jill Krementz

In the Vonnegutian vernacular, so it goes. Vonnegut spends a lot of time wallowing in the murky nostalgia of World War II ("my war"), reminiscing about a time before the nation found itself "alone eating nachos and gazing into the face of a cathode-ray tube," when people still read *The Saturday Eveuing Post* and *Collier's* — magazines in which Vonnegut published his early stories — and shared a sort of literary communion. No more, says Vonnegut, who claims to spend more and more time "maundering about parts of plays hardly anyone knows or cares about anymore." Plays, he points out, are like his own contrived "timequake" — "actors know everything they are going to say and do, and how everything is going to come out in the end ... yet they have no choice but to behave as though the future were a mystery."

What does one make of such stew? The inside flap of the novel's dust cover calls *Timequake* "a literary form such as the world has never seen before," with the universe itself as one of the "three protagonists." This notion may or may not be Vonnegut's, but personification on such a grand scale is nothing new. Hemingway proudly declared *The Sun Also Rises* "a damned tragedy with the earth as hero abiding forever." Oddly enough, it is with Hemingway, whose 1950 novel *Across the River and into the Trees* met with critical hostility, that Vonnegut identifies most. In the past decade Vonnegut has slipped into the critical subconscious; before that, he received a barrage of criticism for his fantasticality and perceived simplicity. *Timequake*, however, is not the critically redemptive novel that was Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*. Its short stories (filtered through Kilgore Trout) are translucent parables about the decline of the imagination in the technologically modern world — a worthy topic, except that the stories are themselves uninaginative, almost banal. Vonnegut's personal ruminations and observations are alternately caustic and touching, but belong in something like a memoir. They are not served well by so many fragments of narration.

That *Timequake* is a current bestseller speaks more of Vonnegut's own *oeuvre* than it does the literary worth of the novel itself. Even in the eighties, high school students — future literature majors, at least — passed around jaundiced, paperback copies of *Slaughterhouse-Five*, pleased to have discovered literature outside of the English curriculum. Vonnegut always wrote on the cusp of critical acceptance, and for that he was a hero to many students and intellectuals, themselves on the cusp of literary radicalism. It is out of respect, one suspects, that so many are now buying what Vonnegut himself calls "my last book." There is nothing in it as sardonically beautiful as in his earlier works — nothing which compares, say, to the famous passage in *Slaughterhouse-Five* in which Billy Pilgrim, watching a war movie backwards, imagines that "all humanity, without exception, conspired biologically to produce two perfect people named Adam and Eve."

But Vonnegut is exhausted. Have pity.

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Ben Folds Five Back to Springfield

by George Semanie, Jr.

Ben Folds Five came back to Springfield and rocked it like there was no tomorrow. The group consists of Ben Folds on piano and lead vocals, Robert Sledge on bass, and Darren Jessee on drums. Both Sledge and Jessee provide Folds with a nice background of vocals.

Their second disc, "Whatever and Ever Amen," is steadily moving up the charts and is getting some recognition it justly deserves. Their self titled first album was unheard of by most but after listening to it I began to regret not hearing of this band in '95 when their first disc was released. I was able to see them live at Pearl Street, and it wasn't even their first appearance in Springfield. They also played the Ironhorse years back. I can't say that I was there but Folds promised a better show that night and man did they rock.

They opened with a nice little melody ("Missing the War") and then broke into a longer-than-usual version of "Battle of Who Could Care Less." Folds has incredible finger speed on the piano and Sledge and Jessee provide an energetic stage performance, with Jessee seeming not even to sit while banging nn the drums and Sledge always making eye contact with the packed crowd. After playing a song that has been on the radio and premiered on MTV's 120 Minutes they went to the old school rendition of "Philosophy." The reflection of Folds eyes could clearly be seen during this tune and the energy of the crowd could be seen by the jumping and clapping throughout the set.

On the funnier side of Ben Folds Five, they jammed into a rendition of the "Sanford and Snn" television theme. They spoke with the crowd about the old days and, like every other band does, they said the next song would be a ballad and then ripped into "One Angry Dwarf and 200 Solemn Faces." Jesse and his drum kit seemed almost to fly with the force and energy he displayed in this particular performance.

Ben Folds Five was certainly a crowd pleaser while playing other songs such as "Brick," "Fair," and "Stevens Last Stand." With a magic of the past and a new list of songs the fans weren't disappointed. I remember talking to a friend of mine about the bands that play at Pearl Street Night Club and he said that every now and again a band that plays at Pearl Street gets big. Just take a listen to the Counting Crows. They played at Pearl Street the night before their debut CD came out, and then became a success. So I recommend to all of you who like to go shows keep your eyes on the *Springfield Advocate* and the *WEEKENDER*. Who knows — that show might be by a band on its rise to the top.

Everyone's a Critic!

So why not submit your reviews to *the Westerner?!*

Review:

- ~ CDs
- ~ Movies
- ~ Video Releases
- ~ Books
- ~ Plays
- ~ Concerts

Give Me Your Feedback!

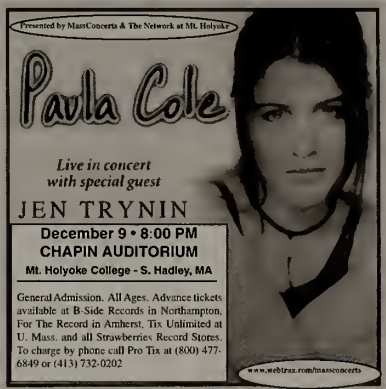
--//--

Did you get all the classes you wanted?

Let me know how you like your schedule for spring semester.

Drop your notes in the campus mail, Box 1519

--//-- is substituting for the columnist formerly known as George Semanie, Jr.



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Sports Briefs

Fairfield Skates to Victory, Nichols Wins by a Penny

by David Weinberg

In ECAC ice hockey action, Western New England College lost game one of their young season. Bill Coughlin netted two goals, and Ryan Murray added a goal and two assists as Fairfield University spoiled WNEC's season opener 4-2.

Bill Coughlin scored an unassisted goal at 7:07 of the first period to put Fairfield up 1-0. At 9:10 of the first, WNEC evened the score at 1-1 with a power play goal by Jason Lacroix. Fairfield took a 2-1 lead on a power play goal by Ryan Murray at 16:55.

Fairfield netted the only goal of the second period when Rob Curtis scored on a breakaway at 13:48. Coughlin scored his second goal of the game midway through the third period, making the score 4-1. WNEC received their second, and final, goal of the night when Jeff Gilbert scored on a power play at 17:41.

In men's soccer, the Golden Bears were defeated by the Nichols College Bisons by a score of 3-2. One minute into the game, Nichols took an early 1-0 lead with a goal by Jeff Kazukynas. The Bisons extended their lead to 3-0 when Derek Graves scored two goals within two minutes during the first half.

The Golden Bears cut the lead to 3-1 when Tim Conklin netted one for the home team at 33:11. WNEC fought back to make it 3-2 on a goal by Todd Burger at 65:00. Despite controlling the ball for the majority of the final six minutes, the Golden Bears could not score the equalizer, thus giving the Bisons a one goal victory.

Kaneris and Company Run for Victory

by Ryan O'Connor

On a cold and wet Saturday in November, the true Western New England College football fans watched the Golden Bears defeat Merrimack College 14-12 for their fourth win of the season.

The key to this game was the WNEC defense. The defense held the Merrimack Warriors offense down to less than 200 yards of total offense and caused six fumbles, which were all recovered by WNEC.

"Our defense continues to improve every week," said Golden Bears head coach, Gerry Martin.

Although Merrimack was significantly bigger up front, the Golden Bears were able to play strong on every snap. Frank Lieto also contributed to this iron curtain defense by collecting 14 tackles.

WNEC got on the scoreboard in the middle of the first quarter when quarterback John Mancuso handed the ball off to junior tailback Andy Kaneris, who exploded up the field for a 79 yard touchdown. The extra point snap was mishandled by the holder Mike Roach, who then picked up the ball and ran to the end zone for the two-point conversion.

The Golden Bears maintained an 8-0 lead until early in the second half, when the Merrimack defense pinned WNEC deep in their own zone. On fourth down, WNEC was forced to punt the ball. But after an errant snap, Merrimack sacked punter Brian Gallagher. The Merrimack Warriors capitalized on the sack and then took two plays to reach the end zone.

The Warriors tried to even the score, but the pass failed for the two-point conversion. WNEC's defense stepped up again, shutting down Merrimack's offense on a crucial two-point play that would haunt the Warriors late in the game.

Within a minute of the kick-off, Mancuso was intercepted on an attempted screen pass, which led to a 20 yard run by Merrimack's linebacker William Grogan. With the score now being 12-8, favoring the Warriors, the frustrated WNEC defense need to stop the two-point conversion. Once again, the Warriors tried to power their way though a rain-infested defense but, again, failed, running the ball into a wall of blue and gold.

The wet conditions caused the ball and field to be slippery. In the third quarter, the Warriors were victimized by the weather, once again fumbling the ball for the sixth time in the game. WNEC recovered the loose ball on the Warriors' 45 yard line.

The Golden Bears desperately needed a game-winning touchdown with a little more than a quarter remaining in the game. With 25 seconds remaining in the third quarter, Mancuso hit running back John Hyatt out of the backfield for a 26-yard gain. On the very next play Mancuso connected with Roach on a 19-yard pass for WNEC's second touchdown.

Roch's 19-yard reception gave him a new Golden Bears single-season record for receiving yards: 584. The two-point conversion failed on the ground but would eventually prove to be insignificant. The Golden Bears defense held off the Warriors from getting near the end zone in the fourth quarter and would eventually run down the clock for WNEC's second straight win.

Mancuso played another strong game, throwing for 104 yards on 15 attempts. Kaneris, another player who has been effective in the running game, scored a touchdown for the fourth win. Kaneris ended the game with 120 rushing yards on 20 carries. Jim McDonough also played an important role in the win by making two catches for a total of 16 yards. McDonough also did the punting for the Golden Bears, averaging approximately 30 yards on four punts.

Attention Athletes, Coaches, and Spectators!

Help the Westerner Sports Team out by submitting articles, season wrap-ups, schedules, and photos!

Help generate school spirit and gain team support.

Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Contact David Weinberg at 782-1580.

Play Ball! Sports

Congratulations to

John Mancuso
Andy Kaneris
Mike Roach
Jim McDonough
Frank Lieto
Lester Johnson

for making the Eastern Collegiate Football Conference 1997 All-Conference Team!

Coach's Corner

Women's Soccer Wrap-up

by Ron Dias,
Women's Soccer Coach

The Western New England College women's soccer team finished the year with a 14-7-0 record for the third consecutive winning season.

The team competed in the MAIWA State championship at Salem State College. WNEC defeated Bridgewater State 6-1 in the Semi-Final. In the finals, WNEC lost to Salem State 3-0. Kate Brunelle, Tapleigh Fallon, and Stephanie Szajna were named to the All-Tournament team.

The 1997 team was led by junior tri-captains Jen Bonafede, Carrie Hoffman, and Brunelle. Other team members included sophomores Kristen Ogulewicz, Fallon, Dianne Baron, Stephanie Szajna, Alison Reseigne, Heather Andrews, and Madeline Sandstrom, along with freshmen Meredith O'Neill, Lisa DiTarananto, Sara Bartlett, Liz Burke, and Lilliam Guerra.

This group set a number of team and individual records. Brunelle became the all-time leading scorer in College history in only her third year with 59 goals and 37 assists. Goalie Marissa Stawasz set the season shutout record with 9 shutouts. The team won 14 games, the most in a single season, and scored the most goals with 65.

The outlook for next year is bright. Brunelle summed it up best when she said, "we have a very young team with no seniors. We will only get better."

Next fall will be very exciting as well, as WNEC will host the first ever WNEC Women's Invitational on September 5 and 6, 1998. The Golden Bears are looking to bring in three very competitive teams for a two day tournament.

Golden Bear Classifieds

Announcements

Communications Association Event: Dec. 4 — Guest Speaker, Maureen Adinolfi, Promotion Manager, Springfield Union News.

Want discount movie tickets? Hate paying $7.50 to see a movie at Showcase Cinemas? Visit the Info Booth and pick up your tickets in advance for only $5.50!

Did you know the *Review of Art & Literature* is now accepting submissions. If interested please contact Anne-Marie @ 782-1581 or drop your submissions at the Student Publications Office, CC Rm# 163.

Visit Career and Human Resources if you're interested in a job, internship, or help on your Resume. Campus Center, Second floor.

Having a hard time staffing tables in the mall area to sell your organization's tickets? Well, come to the Info Booth and we'll sell them for you. Stop by for more information.

12/3, CAB Comedy, 8pm. Dining Room A.

12/3, Res. Life Program: Phsychology Job Fair. 5:30pm. Dining Room B.

12/5, Holiday Celebration. 11:00am. Campus Center Mall Area. Sing-a-Long, photos w/ Santa, cocoa. Sponsored by RHA, CAB, U&ME, and Res. Life.

12/5, Semi-Formal. Sheraton Hotel, Springfield. 7:00pm.

12/7, Open House. Noon - 4:30.

12/8 - 12/11, Pictures with Santa. 10am - 2pm.

12/9, Res. Life Program: It's Your Business. With Dr. Peter Hess. 5:00pm. Dining Room B.

12/10, Res. Life Program: Before Finals Bash. 7:00pm. Fireside Lounge.

12/12, U&ME Christmas Party.

Announcements

12/12, Last Day of Classes. Good Luck On Your Final Exams!!

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12/13, Open House Snow Date. Noon - 4:30.

12/13, Res. Life Program: Shopping @ the Holyoke Mall. 1:00pm.

12/13 - 12/14, Reading Days.

12/15 - 12/20, Final Exam Period.

12/22, Final Exam Snow Date.

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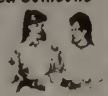
Sometimes You Just Need Someone to Talk With...



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Go Ricki!

Behind the Scenes of the Ricki Lake Show

by Andrea D. Higgins
and Anne-Marie Gravel

Have you ever wondered what happens on talk show sets during commercial breaks? Do the guests go crazy? Does the audience interact with the guests?

Actually, stagehands are running around, sets are changed, the host often interacts with the crowd, and audience members change seats.

On Thursday, December 4, we attended the *Ricki Lake Show* in New York City. After finding the E. 37 Street location, standing in line, showing a form of identification, walking through metal detectors and bag searches, and listening to countless instructions on how to behave during the taping (no gum chewing and please turn your beepers and cell phones off or put them on vibrate), and observing the solicitation of future guests, we were escorted through a hallway and up stairs to the set and seated.

After 20 minutes, an audience warm-up guy greeted us, prepped us for the show (this involved a lot of screaming practice), and announced the show topic. Our topic was celebrity guests who surprise their biggest fans. These celebrities included Puff Daddy, Mase, The Lox, 112, and Usher, who were performing at Madison Square Garden that night.

Usher was the first guest, serenading a young fan who thought she was there to be honored for being a good sister. He performed his number one single, "You Make Me Wanna," complete with dancers and the removal of his shirt, which drove the female audience members wild.

Next up was Mase, who surprised two fans who thought they were there dueling about who was a bigger fan—they thought their prize was to meet Mase at a future taping of the show. They happily answered trivia questions about their favorite rapper, such as what his real name is and what profession he would be in if he weren't a rapper. Their final question was to sing part of his current top 10 single, "Feels So Good." Shortly after the music began, Mase bounded onto

See RICKI, page 3

A Conversation with the Administration

An Open Forum with the President and Vice Presidents

by Andrea D. Higgins

Can you imagine sitting in the Snack Bar discussing your feelings about Western New England College policies, classes, and future endeavors with the administration?

Dr. Anthony Caprio, Jane Albert, Dr. Judith Brissette, and Dr. Rex Stevens

On Tuesday, November 18, students did exactly that with Dr. Anthony Caprio; Jane Albert, Vice President of Advancement and Marketing; Dr. Rex Stevens, Vice President of Academic Affairs; and Dr. Judith Brissette, Vice President of Administration and Planning.

Co-sponsored by WNEK-FM and *the Westerner*, this event offered the students a chance to express their concerns, ask any questions they may have about the College, voice their opinions, and to know the administration and their roles at the College.

The panel addressed issues, such as Strategic Planning, the Diversity Committee, computer access and upgrading, and graduation.

The evening began with Caprio talking about the accomplishments during his first year as President and his goals for the future. "It's been a very interesting and busy year, and a year full of great progress," Caprio stated.

Caprio explained that his biggest goal for the future lies within the Strategic Planning Committee, which consists of 17 faculty and staff who meet on a weekly basis to look at the strengths and weaknesses of the College. He later explained that the goal of the Committee is to "identify ourselves, find our niche, and what direction we will move in years to come." Caprio added that "it will create a better Western New England College, and one that you will be happy to see."

Albert stated a few of the other goals the Committee has, including "a lot more students—including adult students—on campus ... the off campus program growing ... the introduction of technology changing how we deliver our courses ... and the Law School involved with joint program and opportunities with other colleges."

The question of whether students would be involved in the Strategic Planning Committee was met with much enthusiasm from Caprio. "My hope, of course, is that students will be actively involved," Caprio stated. He described the focus groups and surveys that have been used to obtain student input and to implement their ideas and suggestions. In addition, he spoke of a class that was filmed n the College's School of Business (for the Committee's viewing) where students presented a "mini strategic plan" of what they'd like the college to b. In addition, Caprio encouraged students to present their opinions and ideas to him or the Committee.

The conversation switched to the Diversity Committee, as student Becky Lauber asked if the students, specifically Student Senate and United and Mutually Equal, would be able to add their feelings and opinions to the Diversity pamphlet that was produced.

Caprio stated that "there will be opportunities" to talk about the pamphlet and the students' feelings toward the diversity of the College.

Stevens suggested that the students bring their report to Emmett Barcalow or Yvonne Bogle, the co-chairs of the Diversity Committee, for consideration during the open meetings. "I'm sure they'll want to speak about it and report what emphasis it will have on their meetings," Stevens remarked.

Kevin Drozdowski raised the

See CONVERSATION, page 2

Conversation

continued from page one

question of computer access at the college. He expressed a concern over printing out materials from the Internet that are needed for research and classes (without being charged for each copy), stating that the College seemed "handicapped" when it came to computer technology.

Stevens pointed out that "the amount of money we've spent in the last year on paper and printer cartridges was $5,000, and we need to recover that."

Albert stated that "the Strategic Planning Committee has been looking at the technology needs . . . and technology is at the top of the list of priorities." She explained that the staff and administration are trying to determine the needs of the students, faculty, and staff, so more access, copies, and extra terminals can be provided.

Anne-Marie Gravel changed the topic to graduation and questioned whether commencement will be held on campus this year and how many tickets each senior will be given.

Caprio confirmed that commencement exercises will be held on campus this year at the Alumni Healthful Living Center (AHLC) and explained why that decision was made. "I recognized that it (Springfield Civic Center) was a great space that accommodated a lot of people, but it wasn't very intimate . . . and it wasn't the setting that I wanted to see," he stated. Caprio added that "It would be nice to have everyone on campus and have other activities on campus that day," such as displays at the different schools and tours with family and friends.

Brissette described the meetings that she had with the senior class officers and the discussions they've had about supplying every senior with an ample amount of tickets. She said that the AHLC can accommodate 4,500 people and possibly 500 extra. She assured that each student will receive "8-10 tickets," and described a process that would allow students to receive extra tickets from students who did not plan to use all of their tickets.

Brissette also mentioned the possibility of having a wide-screen TV so people in the back will be able to see each student. She assured that "there will also be a good sound system."

The open forum was the first of what the staff at WNEK-FM and *the Westerner* hope will be successful events that allow the administration and students to discuss the College.

the Westerner

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Computer Consultant

Ryan O'Connor
Sports Reporter

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

Holiday Message and Greeting from President Caprio

I am pleased to have this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes and best regards for the holiday season to every member of our wonderful campus community. This is a season for reflection, joy, and happiness, as we acknowledge through gifts of words and items, the importance of others in our personal and our work lives.

I wish every student, faculty member, and staff person at Western New England College a joyous, prosperous, and rewarding 1998, and I hope that this College, by your presence and work here, will play an important part in your happiness.

To the leadership of the Westerner, I extend a special word of gratitude on behalf of the entire College. We all support you as you accept the hard work of producing the College's newspaper.

Editor-in-Chief Andrea Higgins, the entire College is indebted to you for having accepted the responsibility of reviving the Westerner and sustaining it over the summer months and throughout the fall. I thank you on behalf of Western New England College and congratulate you on the completion of your studies for your degree this fall semester. Andrea, we will remember you and miss you very much.

Happy Holidays!

Anthony Caprio

Ricki

continued from page 1

the stage, complete with a cane (necessary for a knee injury sustained at a concert), and sang to the two admirers.

Third, Puff Daddy sat down for an interview with Lake about his work with charities, his career and enormous success, and finding Notorious B.I.G.'s killer.

The next performers were 112, who surprised a fan who thought she was there to make a public plea for them to return to Lake's show. They sang their hit single, "Cupid," to the star-struck fan.

Finally, The Lox rapped for a girl who was brought there by her mother, who wanted to bonor her daughter for being a positive teen.

During breaks, the performers signed plaques on the wall of the studio, posed for pictures with Lake and the fans, and chatted with audience members. While all of this was happening, Lake had her makeup touched up (the studio was very warm because of the lights) and looked over cue cards, while stage managers changed the sets and prepared for the next segment.

After the show, the audience was promptly escorted out because the taping ran over, and the crew had to prepare for the second taping.

We, however, were escorted to the reception area to wait for Andrew Scher, Coordinating Producer for the *Ricki Lake Show*. Once Scher arrived, he invited us to his office where we chatted about what it's like to work for the sbow, how he got his start in the television industry, and what advice he had for college students interested in pursuing a career in the field.

Scher graduated from Franklin Pierce College in 1988 with a degree in Television Broadcasting. His first job was with Joan Lunden, and his first task was to clean the butter out of the popcorn machine that was on the set. Scher said that this job was "fate," because his aunt was in the studio audience of the show and mentioned that her nephew was trying to get a job.

Emphasizing that television hopefuls will not make $50,000 right away, Scher stated "I was making peanuts—about $200 a week—driving 130 miles each way, and paying 10 tolls a day." But he remarked that "if you want it bad enough, you keep going."

After working for Lunden, Scher worked for several people and shows, including Robert Deniro, Sugar Ray Leonard, WWOR's *New York at Night*, Jackie Mason, and Montell Williams. He has been working for the *Ricki Lake Show* for three years, and the next step up for him would be Senior or Executive Producer.

He describes a typical day at Lake's show as "chaotic." They tape six shows a week (on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays), two each day (3:30 and 5:30).

The show covers a wide array of topics, including heavy duty problems, relationships, celebrity guests, and pageant shows, but Scher stated that it's "hard to get people to come on TV to air their problems." However, he defends the premise of each show, explaining that the reason they choose their guests and topics is to reach viewers who have similar problems. "If there's someone out there that can watch the show and say, 'I can relate to their problems,' and fix one thing in their lives, then we've helped," Scher explained. "It's not just airing dirty laundry," he emphasized, "it's life."

Scher explained that their guests and show topics are sometimes found during commercial breaks when they are talking to audience members, through letters, and calls to the 800 number.

He also stated that celebrities are open to the show because "it's a great medium . . . these fans buy the CDs, watch the television shows, and go out to see the movies."

Scher explained that he works in a very stressful and competitive environment, but if you're hungry enough, you will succeed. "It's tough, but fun," he added.

He encourages students and graduates interested in pursing a career in the television industry to network, have as much experience as possible, be aware of trends and activities in the industry, and go to each interviews with a purpose and each job with a mission. Scher shared his favorite quote as the ultimate advice—"I may have been beaten up but never defeated, nor will I ever be."

If you have a topic that you would like to see on the *Ricki Lake Show*, call 1-800-GO-RICKI.

The *Ricki Lake Show* airs weekdays at 3 p.m. on WVIT, Channel 30. The future air-date of the show we attended will be posted on the Student Publications Office door as soon as the date is confirmed.

NEWS

Holiday 1997

Local Manager Speaks with Communications Association

by Ken Labak

On Tbursday, December 4, the Communications Association welcomed Maureen Adinolfi, Promotions Manager for the Springfield *Union News*, to talk about what it is like to work in the advertising/journalism arena, field questions about what her job entails, and discuss what is needed to excel in the field.

After graduating from college with a degree in Journalism and Communications, Adinolfi worked for the Big E writing press releases and networking. She was eventually given an opportunity to freelance for a local paper. The term "freelance" had particular weight, since Adinolfi was not paid for her work. The job was to "just gain experience."

It wasn't until she met the promotions manager for the Hartford *Courant* that she "got her foot in the door." She worked there as a Project Manager until she was scooped up by the Union News. "It was time to move on, time to make a change," she said. She is now the Promotions Manager, a job which those in attendance found is lacking opportunities. "There are only so many papers, with only so many jobs at each paper," she said. "The pickings are slim."

In discussing her duties, Adinolfi stressed that no day is "typical"; there is constant movement from situation to situation. Her duties all base themselves around one goal: promoting the paper. Such related tasks include collecting information, brainstorming ideas for advertisements, and coming up with fresh, innovative ideas to increase sales. These tasks are done throughout the day with the help of her fellow department members. A morning brainstorming session begins each day, and separate jobs commence afterwards.

When asked what it takes to succeed in the advertising/journalism market, Adinolfi stressed the abilities to work with people, to take a plan and see it through beginning to end, and to have a creative mind-set for new, potentially successful ideas.

In her conclusion, Adinolfi made it known that internships and experience are very impottant. She told the audience to choose a career that "suits your abilities and makes you happy."

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D'Amour Library Final Exam Hours

December 12	Friday	8a.m. ~ 10p.m.
December 13	Saturday	10a.m. ~ 10p.m.
December 14	Sunday	noon ~ midnight
December 15-17	Monday ~ Wednesday	8a.m. ~ midnight
December 18-19	Thursday ~ Friday	8a.m. ~ 11p.m.
December 20	Saturday	8a.m. ~ 5p.m.
December 21 *	Sunday	CLOSED
December 22-23	Monday ~ Tuesday	9a.m. ~ 4p.m.
December 24	Wednesday	9a.m. ~ noon

*Snow Day Alternate Hours

December 21	Sunday	1p.m. ~ 6p.m.
December 22	Monday	8a.m. ~ 7p.m.

Cupola and Confusion

I would like to address the issue of the lack of planning that has gone into the senior section (especially pictures) for the yearbook. I am not blaming one person, and I am not out to point the finger at anyone, because I know that I would not be able to coordinate anything like this. I do appreciate the time that the staff has invested in putting the yearbook together, but I am not satisfied with the way it is being carried out. First, the notification that senior pictures were going to be taken was given two days before the sittings. I have a very busy schedule, and two days notification was not sufficient. I would have liked to have gotten a new sweater, or maybe a haircut.

I am still fuzzy on the whole decision to use an out-of-state photographer. If a local photographer were used, then perhaps students, who were unable to work in the pictures around their classes, would be able to make an appointment on their own — at a different, more convenient time, or even on a weekend. Not to mention the fact that if something goes wrong, then there is a person that you could go and talk to, not just a voice on the phone. For example, my roommate and I got our pictures taken during the first sitting, then decided to get re-takes done as well. We both got our second set take on Friday the 31st (Halloween). My roommate received her proofs when she returned from Thanksgiving break. They were postmarked November 21st. I *still* (as of December 3rd) bave not received my proofs from that sitting. I called the photographer, and they said that the proofs were sent all at once, which explains why my roommate got hers. Maybe they got lost in the mail. Maybe they were sent to my house. Who knows ... all I know is that I don't have them. Why doesn't tbe photographer have a toll-free number on the bmcbure they sent out with the proofs? I have had to call twice now, at my *own* expense to follow up on *their* mistakes!

Another matter with which I was unhappy was the fact that the notices for the re-takes were sent *home*. Why? Are we not adults? Do they have to seod that card home to Mommy and Daddy? If my roommate had not received her card, I would not have known about them. Yes, I admit, there were signs in the campus center, but there are a lot of days that go by that I do not set foot in the campus center. What about the commuters? There are many students who just come to school to go to class and don't go into the campus center either. What if those students didn't see those wonderful signs?

The signs didn't seem to work for the editing of the Senior Bio's either. I guess that there was a sign outside of the snack bar for two days telling seniors to go up to Student Activities and edit their bios (which would take time that I don't have). Maybe if it were a little more known to the studeots that their bios would be able to be edited on a later date, then we would have been a little more alert to look for signs. Also, I am still not sure when the deadline is for proofs that need to be sent back to the photographer in order to be included in the yearbook. No one seems to know either. All I heard was "Get them back A.S.A.P.!" Seeing as I have not gotten my proofs to look at yet, what does that mean for me? Well, gee, when I get my proofs in July, I'll be sure to be prompt in picking one and sending it to New Hampshire.

Again, if I have offended any of the yearbook staff, I apologize. I just feel that there could have been a lot more planning on their part. I know that everyone is stressed out this time of year, witb fioals and all, but that is not an excuse to slack off on the yearbook — a very important part of a graduating senior's last year at college. If the members of the yearbook staff knew that they would not be able to focus a lot of attention on their duties as yearbook editors, then they should not have signed up to be a part of it. As it is, I have just as much work as everyone at this school, and these problems that arose, which could have been avoided completely, have taken me away from that work. During the time that has been wasted on phone calls, and just plain worrying, I could have done two bome work assignments. I think the way these topic are dealt with will determine if the next senior class will have just as many problems as I did. I hope for their sake someone comes up with a better, less stressful way of making a great yearbook.

Kelly Cossaboom

Editorials

Holiday 1997

Westerner Editorial Policies:

~ Editorials and Letters to the Editor should be submitted to the Publications Office ond should include author's nome, address, and phone number. If you wish to remain anonymous, indicate reason with submission. (NOTE: We still must know who wrote the article)
~ The opinions here do not necessorily represent the Westerner, its staff, or Western New England College.
~ All quotes ond stories must be legitimate (the Westerner staff reserves the right to contact those quoted to ensure authenticity).
~ The Westerner staff reserves the right to withhold editorials due to controversial material.
~ The Westerner strives to uphold libel laws and produce integrity.

Letter to the Editor

My name is Kevin Drozdowski. I am Chairperson of the Campus Activities Board (CAB) and a member of the Student Senate Executive Board, and I am writing this letter in response to the Dear Marilyn article that was published in the December 1997 issue of the *Westerner* concerning the Campus Activities Board and Student Senate.

First, anyone who writes articles for or letters to the school newspaper for publishing needs to get the facts straight. Members of various organizations, like POed, may feel that their club has not received enough money. But the fact of the matter is that anyone may return to the Senate at any time during the year for additional funding. The money that a club is initially allocated is a figure which the finance committee of the Senate works out. They take many factors into considerations, including membership and what the club or organization in question has done in the past. All clubs and organizations meet with the finance committee with their budget before it is voted on. This is an excellent opportunity to discuss the budget and to justify the club's needs. Clubs that have proven themselves with good leadership and programming are more likely to receive their requested funding than a club who has not offered much to the students or the school.

In addition, this year in particular, the Senate has allocated more money than in past years. CAB is considered a club or organization, but technically it is a sub-committee of Student Senate. This means that it follows their constitution, and is allocated one-third of Student Senate's budget. For those who do not know, the activities fee is the Senate's budget; CAB only receives one-third of that — not 50%, as the POed student thinks.

The second issue that the POed student mentions is that CAB does not offer enough activities, or activities that interest the community, for the amount of money it gets. However, each year CAB spends every penny it gets, and sometimes more. Not one week goes by on this campus where CAB has not been a sponsor or cosponsor of an event. If students are unhappy with the current programs CAB offers, they may come to the weekly meetings (everyone is welcome, Wednesdays at 4:00 in People's Place) and tell their ideas. CAB is always looking for new ideas and programs.

Students might ask why CAB hasn't had a concert. It tried to have one this semester, but it fell through. There is a lot of planning that goes on with a big event such as a concert, much of which is out of CAB's control. But the effort is always there. If more students like POed had come to CAB meetings this semester, they would know the reasons for not having a concert. It is easier to complain like many other students and not get involved! The first thing CAB needs, and is lacking, is membership. If more students were interested in joining CAB,

See LETTER, page 5

What I Learned at Western New England College

Advice to a New Editor

"Those who create, can. Those who cannot, criticize."

As my days at Western New England College slowly drift away, I bave been reminiscing about the four years I spent here as a student, a leader, and a money-starved teaching assistant. Regardless of the setting, person, or event, the previous quote and the professor who relayed those words of comfort, enters my mind.

When I enrolled at the College, my intentions were quite simple — gain expertise in my field of interest and receive a degree so I could make it in the "real world." But I encountered a lot of things along that path, and I'm sure most students have or will encounter the same things during their college experiences.

My education at Western New England College has extended far beyond the classroom. During my freshman year I decided to take on a leadership position. And this position has taught me many things, such as how to work with groups of people, what it takes to produce a satisfying and crowd-pleasing result, where my strengths and weaknesses lie, and, most importantly, how to take constant criticism.

Unfortunately, students on this campus are reluctant about getting involved in clubs and organizations. Yes, it's a great deal of time and effort, and not everyone has the time and general desire to donate the few quiet moments they have. That's understandable, and I would never condemn anyone for his or her choices. But I wonder if the decision not to get involved in College activities and leadership opportunities is the result of a larger problem — the lack of excite-

See ADVICE, page 5

Letter

continued from previous page

there would be more ideas and more help to put on programs that people like the POed student want to see.

Last, the POed student mentions that "no one wants to join these organizations because they are corrupt and nothing but a popularity contest." This comment is particularly annoying. Although it is true that many of the same people are involved in numerous activities, these are the poeple who care about Western New England College, and they are going out of their way to make a difference. Many students may not be aware that Student Senate had to hold a second round of elections in the fall to fill positions that were not filled in the spring. And CAB was operating without chairpersons for five committees! CAB is doing its best with the small group of people with whom it works.

POed's letter, along with another Marilyn letter printed in the December 1997 issue of the *Westerner*, discusses and complains about student leaders and programs on campus. This is very disturbing. The few students who are involved in this school are involved because they want to be, and they care. They work very hard and spend long hours trying to make changes and make WNEC a better place. It is easy for students who are not involved to complain or become ungrateful about the work being done for the benefit of the campus. It's even worse when students write letters and articles with incorrect information, put people down, and don't bother to sign their name to what they've written.

Imagine what things the campus would not have if it weren't for the student leaders! As for me, I made my choice in my freshamn year. I chose to get involved, to learn more about my school, and to make a difference. An alternative to writing ignorant letters of complaint is to *get involved*! All Senate and CAB meetings are open to everyone. It's time more people went.

Kevin Drozdowski

Advice

continued from previous page

ment in the area, the low number of students in attendance at events, or the fact that leaders are often the target of unfair criticisms and insults.

I think it's odd that very few student leaders get the respect they have earned and, in my opinion, deserve. We've all been slapped on the wrist, no doubt, for a mistake or misunderstanding. We learn from out mistakes. But I've discovered that the student leaders take horrendous slaps — from faculty, administration, and students — for things they do or mistakes they make. And I am not saying that this is true of all leaders, but I have witnessed it a lot within a few organizations this semester.

I'm not going to waste my space or your time preaching about how hard student leaders work, what you should do to support their efforts, or why I think student leadership is the most educational and rewarding experience a college student could ever take part in. Instead, I am going to take the culmination of knowledge, as a student leader who has made mistakes and grown immensely as a professional, a friend, and student, and offer some advice to my successor.

In January Wayne Barr will take on the enormous task of publishing the *Westerner*. It's not going to be an easy task on a campus that does not offer a journalism major, in-depth course on the topic, and has very few students interested in becoming journalists or editors. But all of those obstacles are what makes the Editor-in-Chief position rewarding.

The ability to put out a newspaper on a regular basis, despite the whirlwind of odds stacked up against you, is an accomplishment. Revel in that success, Wayne. Savor each issue. Every word, article, and photo that crosses your desk, and every eager student that walks through the door will be an attribute to your success, despite the complaints and lack of support.

Despite the stress that this task will produce, do not let it bother you. Have fun. It's not necessary to be intense all the time, and it's never mandatory to spend all of your free time in the office. I only wish I would have discovered this long ago.

Appreciate you staff and let them know their work is important. They, too, take the brunt of criticisms — the typos that appear in the articles, the content of each article, the type of paper the latest edition was printed on, and the qualities of photos. It's a discouraging job at times, and strength and support is built through the staff.

You can't make everyone happy, so concentrate on yourself. If you feel that you made the right decision, and that you and your staff successfully created an informative, entertaining, and thought-provoking issue of the paper, then your job has been done. Take the criticisms, but know that you did your best and defend that.

I wish you luck with the *Westerner*, Wayne. I hope you continue to raise the paper's integrity and image in the eyes of the campus community. I hope you make innovative changes and increase morale on campus. I am confident that you can do it.

Thank you to everyone who has supported me this past year, especially Dr. Anthony Caprio, Professors Jimmie Thomas and Nancy Hoar, G. Michael Dobbs, Dean Zem, and the Office of Career and Human Resources for their words of comfort and contributions to my reign as Editor-in-Chief. I've enjoyed myself, learned a lot, and grown a great deal — and I do not regret one minute of it.

Andrea D. Higgins

~ Cash For Books ~

Bring us your used books, and we'll exhange them for cash!

December 12th - 20th

Your Official

Western New England College Bookstore

Professor Accesses Asian *Turmoil*

by Wayne Barr

On Wednesday, December 3, at 3:30 p.m., students and faculty members met in Sleith 100 to hear Professor William Bosworth deliver a lecture about the Asian economy, the American economy, and the future of both. The lecture was jointly sponsored by the Financial Management Association and the Political Science Club.

As Professor Michael Meeropol emphasized in his introductory remarks, the meltdown of the Asian economy "is a perfect example of how quickly things can change" — that is, how a once thriving economy can quickly turn on itself.

Bosworth, whose studies focus on the field of international finance, agreed. "The Asian crisis, in some ways, is an exaggeration of what is going on in America," he said.

1997, for example, was "a great year for graduates" entering the job market, and "next year should be even better," he said. Under the new economic paradigm of rapid growth, low inflation, and high employment, graduates have better financial prospects than their 1970s counterparts, who graduated into an economic paradigm of high inflation, sluggish growth, and high unemployment.

This modern economic paradigm in America, however, resembles that of Asia in the early 90s, Bosworth said. This resemblance raises some obvious questions about the future of the American economy and the job prospects it will offer — questions pertinent to future graduates.

Bosworth quickly modified the media-familiar term "Asian crisis" to "Asian turmoil." A crisis passes quickly, he said, but the economic peril of countries like Korea, Thailand, and Indonesia "will drag on." The persisting problem of the "turmoil" arises from overproduction of goods and over-development of production facilities.

The "turmoil," of course, is more complicated than that. In his hour-long lecture, Professor Bosworth talked about self-perpetuating cycle of asset inflation and the resultant "wild-west kind of operation" of some Asian companies — the South Korean chaebol, for example, and other nepotistic conglomerates who monopolized the "excess of liquidity" which accompanied the economic growth spurt.

"International capital corrupted small markets," he said of "hot money" investments. "Local currencies don't mean much."

This corruption, along with the pervasive redundancy of production, has led to "asset disinflation" — the process in which Asian Central Banks set high interest rates to slow the economy, which in turn reversed formerly prosperous stock market investing. This "unwinding" has led to stock market crashes and the current involvement of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) with, for example, South Korea.

Interestingly, the IMF appeared to finalize its bailout package with South Korea — after a week of difficult negotiations — on the day of Bosworth's lecture. The deal mandated increased taxes, reduction of government spending, and more supervision of financial institutions, all of which Bosworth covered in his lecture.

"There won't be a literal recession," he said, predicting that economic growth in Asian countries receiving aid from the IMF will slow from 6-9% to 2-3%. There will, however, be an increase in political instability and strained relations with the developed world, he said.

Finally, Bosworth addressed the relevancy of this to prospective graduates.

"The US will be the source of jobs for the rest of the world," he said. The inflation of the American dollar against the yen has already caused some American companies, like Fruit-of-the-Loom, to manufacture goods overseas. Even small companies with a region-specific "niche market" are susceptible to this "if the dollar strays year after year," he said.

Jobs in the service sector, however, are not vulnerable to Asian or European competition, he said, encouraging students to abandon their prejudices against service sector marketing and distributing opportunities.

More importantly, he urged students to "become more politically aware than the previous" and to understand the relationship between goods and capital. Asian withdrawal from the stock market could result in higher interest rates in the United States, prompting the same unwinding effect seen in countries like South Korea.

A question-and-answer session following the lecture nearly took the form of a debate when students expressed reservations about the international free-market and its influence on former "American" jobs that are being contracted abroad.

Bosworth, a proponent of the free-market economy, argued against the imposition of tariffs on foreign goods, but said that the foreign exchange needed to control the international transfer of capital. Regulation of the capital market, he argued, will help maintain "equilibrium" between transfer capital and goods and services.

Sports

Holiday 1997

Swim Team off to a Great Start

by Heather Croughwell

The Men's Swimming team started their season against Wheaton College on November 5. The Women's Swimming team began their season on November 8 against Bridgewater State College. The men swam against the U.S. Coast Guard Academy on November 12. Both teams also competed at a Relay Meet at Connecticut College on November 15 where the Women's team came in fourth place. The Men's and Women's Teams competed against Keene State College on November 19 and against Worcester Polytechnical Institute on November 22.

On December 4 the women swam against Westfield State College. On December 5 and 6 the men's and women's teams competed at the ECAC Invitational at Springfield College. The women's team ended the semester at home against Elms College.

These meets were successful both in and out of the pool. The stands were always full of students and faculty in support of the team.

The women's team consists of returning seniors Heather Croughwell and Courtney O'Connell; junior co-captains Emily Alland and Stacie Krueger; junior Samantha Lussier and sophomore Tiffany L'Heureux; freshmen Lisa-Marie Conrino, Emily Brower, Peg Herpok, Michele Cinkewicz, Lynn Schneeweis, and Jen Dileo. The women's record (at press time) is 2-1.

Returning to the men's team are junior Alfredo Drouyn and sophomores Steve McFarland and David Virginia; junior Jon Thurley and freshmen Mark Abildgaard, Matt English, and Earl Gibson.

The swim team practices two hours a day in the Alumni Healthful Living Center pool, where they are committed to an intense training regime.

The women's swim team is hoping to train in Coco Beach, Florida in January.

The swim season will continue after break on January 21.

Men's Swimming Schedule

January 24	Bentley College	H	1p.m.
January 27	Skidmore College	A	6p.m.
January 31	Norwich University	A	1p.m.
February 7	Salem State CollegeH	H	1p.m.

Women's Swimming Schedule

January 21	@Regis College w/ Bentley	A	6p.m.
January 24	Elms College	A	1p.m.
January 27	Skidmore College	A	6p.m.
January 31	Norwich University	A	1p.m.
February 3	Western CT State University	H	7p.m.
February 7	Salem State College	H	12noon
February 11	Eastern CT State University	H	7p.m.

Holiday Classifieds

To the Boys in 5L Park Lane, The semester was an adventure. We drank & watched moons together. Good luck to you. I hope you miss me and my...Well, you know. Merry Christmas & have a good last semester.
~Brian

Just sending out my luv to some of those sexy Windham men: Corey, T.K., Steve, Chance, Adam, Flipper, Seth, Jared, Matt, T.V, Dave, Sal, Zack, Jon, Ryan, Jay, Leigh and Carson.
~All my heart.

To all of the ARAMARK Staff, Thanks for the great job! Happy Holidays! Rob, Tom, Beth, Tim & Julie.

To Ball-In-Hand (Part Deux), Now that we have a conquered PAPA, let us party and carry on the tradition. I wish you good luck in the future and wish you all a Merry X-Mas.
Your favorite sandbagger, Brian

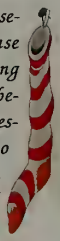
Happy Holidays to all of our Western New England College Students! Enjoy ~ Rob, Tom, Beth, Tim & Julie.
From ARAMARK

To The Westerner Staff: Thank you for all of your help and support, and mostly the laughs. Keep up the great work! I'll miss you!
~Andrea.

To all my best buds: Julie, Geoff, SAM, Jayme, Mandy, Laura, Jen, Ivan, Ryan and to my roommate Marissa. I hope you all have a wonderful holiday season. Best wishes and good luck with exams. Love, Becks.

Elaine,
Already missing you. Happy Holidays!
Love, R.

To the staff of The Review of Art & Literature: Congratulations on a fantastic semester! Please rest up during winter break because next semester promises to be one hell of a ride. Good luck on your exams =) With love, Anne-Marie



FYF DOG IN THE HOUSE!
Happy Holidays to all my friends...Love your Butts! Sarah Anderson and Jessica Lopez will be missed in scheduling, good luck ladies! Good luck to all graduates! SYD! "Eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die!"
~DMB

Anne-Marie: Thanks for your friendship, tolerance, and a killer trip to Manhattan!
Tony: Thanks for your computer expertise. Good luck w/ everything! **Rob & Becky:** Thanks for extending friendship when no one else would. **Wayne:** Good luck. Keep in touch.
Love,
Andrea.

DOS Staff:
You're the BEST! Happy Holidays.
~DD

Keri,
Thank you for all that you have done for me over the past few semesters. I just wanted to say thanks and Merry Christmas to you.
Love Always,
Brian

To My "Roomies":
Hope we all have a great Christmas Break away from "stress!" Good luck on exams! Hope we can come up with more "great topics" to talk about!
Love,
Your "roomie"

To Christina: Have a wonderful winter vacation in Vermont. Relax and enjoy your time with your family. Good luck on your finals. I hope Santa brings you everything you asked for.
With love,
~AM~

Dear Bear,
I love you and cannot wait to cuddle by the fire this Christmas.
Merry Christmas sweet stuff. Love, Slewby.

Dear Santa,
Please leave Anne-Marie (naked) in my stocking. The Chef!
PS. Thank you for all the 411.

Happy Holidays to the 11AM crew. You know who you are!!! From,
The Warrior.

Helder- Wishing you buttons for luck on your finals. You're one in a million. See you over break. **Lauri-** Have a safe trip home & a wonderful X-Mas. Be safe! **Tra-** It's been a while, I miss ya. Have a great X-Mas. See you in '98. With Love, Elaine.

Andrea- Ditto and luck. Let's do it again! ~AM~
Wayne- Enjoy break. Don't work too hard! See you in the office =)
~AM~

Ask Marilyn

Dear M~

I've been buying gifts for the same guy for over two and a half years, and I'm running out of gift ideas. Should I ask my guy specifically what he wants or should I give him a gift certificate (I gave him a gift certificate for his birthday.) Are there any original gifts to buy a guy during the holiday season?
~Clueless about Christmas

Dear Clueless~

You actually have me a bit stumped on this one, considering I haven't done any of my holiday shopping yet, but let me see if I can come up with something creative for you. I know it is not kosher to assume anything these days, but no one ever said I had a clue. I'm assuming that this man you are buying for means something special to you and a gift certificate just might not cut if for the holidays.
You say that you have been buying for him for over two and a half years now; depending on the kind of relationship you have with him, you could be buying him anything from boxers to a wedding band.

To be "neutral" in the situation, I suggest the following: cologne, watch, books, concert tickets, CDs, or stuff a stocking with a few of his favorite items. To be a little more risqué I suggest giving him gift certificates to a getaway location or just wrap yourself up in a big red bow. I hope that this helps you out in some way, shape, or form. My creativity is a bit lacking this holiday season, I apologize. Good luck on all your shopping endeavors.

Dear M~

My girlfriend and I broke up for a few weeks and during that time I "hooked-up" with another girl at a party. My girlfriend and I are now back together. Should I tell her about my indiscretion?
~Concerned

"...I hooked-up with another girl at a party..."

Dear Concerned~

Well, personally I think that honesty is the best policy. What you did when you were not together, is what you did when you were not together. If she asks you if you have been with anyone else while you were not going out, you should tell her so that you can keep your relationship positive and healthy. If you are feeling really bold, you may even volunteer this information to her, but I really don't think that is necessary. The ball is in your court.

"When do I have to break it off...?"

Dear M~

I belong to a club that is having a holiday party and we have to buy gifts for our Secret Santa. The only problem is that I really don't have a clue what this person is like. I don't want to offend them, so what do I buy?
~Stumped

Dear Stumped~

Secret Santas are always hard to buy for, especially if you have to buy a uni-sex gift. Just count yourself lucky that you know your "Secret's" gender. I find that in situations like this one it is best to get goofy and creative. Stop by your local novelty shop and try to find something that relates to the organization you belong to. You could also visit the Holyoke Mall and swing by The Christmas Tree Shops, they have an excellent variety of merchandise for a reasonable cost. [You could put together a gift basket.] And if you really really hate any, or all, of these gift ideas then you could just buy them some scratch tickets and a few powerball tickets and stick them in a card. Good luck, have fun, and I hope you catch a few sales!

Dear M~

What is the etiquette for dating two people at the same time? When do I have to break it off with one and focus on the other without upsetting either one?
~Casanova

Dear Casanova~

This is going to be short and sweet. If you have been upfront with each of them, then there really shouldn't be a problem with you dating both of them at the same time. If you start to have more feelings for one than the other, then the obvious solution is breaking off your ties with the less desirable one. One way or another someone's feelings are going to be hurt — and it could be you if you are not careful. Dating around seems to be tricky for all parties involved. You need to re-evaluate your priorities and go from there. Good luck and happy holidays.

Dear M~

I am writing in response to "Aggravated's" letter in the December 1997 edition of the Westerner. As the Senior Class President, I felt anger, disappointment, and great frustration when I first read this letter. As I thought about what this person had written, it made me feel differently. I then thought that maybe our class just isn't aware of what we have actually accomplished. Let me therefore explain.

I was sorry to read that a Senior felt so badly towards and is so disapproving of his/her class officers. Elections were held in April of 1997, and any Senior was eligible to run for office — "Aggravated" included.

Anyway, the Senior Class officers have never shunned away any senior (or any person, for that matter) when offered help or an opinion. Our class two years ago specifically created a Committee of class members to get people involved as well as get a wider variety of opinions on events and happenings. This committee has helped us, last year, to create what is now a tradition — the first ever All-School Semiformal. This event was open to all students, and completely sold out and then some! Over 380 students attended and about 100 more wanted to; tickets were limited. Again this year the Senior Class helped to produce yet another record-breaking event of over 500 people — the Winter Semiformal of 1997. Does 500 students at an event spell out flop? I think not.

Two years ago the class officers were able to have the first-ever Mr. and Ms. WNEC Pageant. Faculty and students were very impressed with the 15 participants and especially with the over 200 in attendance. Flop once again, I imagine.

They have also conducted very successful raffles to raise money for events, Fridays, Car Washes, and even a very profitable boo bag sale. Just ask any of the over 200 Seniors who attended the "198 Days Party" if their Senior year has been full of unsuccessful events. Flop? Hmmm, no.

Now, I can understand that maybe publicity has not been as good as in the past. We will work to improve that and thanks for letting us know that our publicity has not been efficient. But do keep in mind that those who truly want to be involved should look closer for the information, and not just complain when it has passed.

The one thing that disturbed me the most and that I just couldn't understand is how someone could say the officers are only in this position "to spruce up" their resumes. Maybe this individual is not aware of all the long hours the officers put into the class to make a great year for Seniors. If you look at the Senior Class officers and their resumes, you will see "Senior Class Officer," but you will also see it is accompanied by many other titles in which they also succeed. These people are true leaders!

The Senior Class officers and committee has so much planned for the upcoming semester. For those feeling that their Senior year "hasn't been the greatest," well, hold onto your seats. The ride is just beginning.

As for resignation, the only thing the Senior Class officers are going to resign from is ever giving up on making successful events, and getting more Seniors involved. Thanks to all the Seniors who have helped out and participated in events regularly. It takes a positive attitude, self-involvement, and initiative to have fun. That, my dear friends, is what will make a great senior year!

If there are any questions or concerns always feel free to call any of the class officers or advisors. All feedback and help is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Celia Viegas
Senior Class President

Dear Celia~

I appreciate your letter in response to "Aggravated" (December 1997). It's nice to hear the Senior Class President's point of view.

Now I would like to take a paragraph or two and make a few comments regarding what you said and refer back to Aggravated's letter. If you pull out December's issue, you will see that Aggravated was referring to Senior class events, not events involving the entire campus over the last three years as you stated in your letter.

There is no question about what you have, or have not, accomplished over the last three years; the question, comment, and concern deals with Senior Year and Senior Class events! What events have been set up specifically for Seniors this year?

In the past, Seniors have been invited to a class dinner in the beginning of the year to talk about what they would like to do. Ideas were compiled, refined, and made public. Aggravated just felt uninformed because of the class's lack of organization.

"I am writing in response to "Aggravated's" letter..."

You cannot say that the Senior class officers have "never" shunned away any person who has offered help. This senior offered help and was pushed away.

Finally, there is no doubt that it takes a lot of hard work and dedication to make an event run smoothly. On several occasions I have spoken with Senior Class representatives and their frustration has matched Aggravated's. My suggestion to you is this: slow down, look around, ask questions, ask for help, inform the class of meetings in advance, and turn next semester into a memorable Senior Year.

Enjoy a safe and happy holiday season.
~Marilyn

Billie Holiday, by Jack Coughlin
Part of His Upcoming Exhibit, "A Brush With The Blues" — see page 5

Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

THE WESTERNER

January 16, 1998

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 43 / Issue 6

Students Capture Scholarships

Three senior finance majors received scholarships worth $1,200 from the Hartford Society of Financial Analysts to prepare for and take the Chartered Financial Analyst Level 1 exam this coming May.

Mike Rhorer, Andrea Layton, and Jeff Gaetani will be spending the Spring semester attending evening classes in Hartford, rereading their economic and finance text books, pouring over academic journal articles, listening to luncheon speakers in Hartford, and otherwise cramming all they can to prepare for the daylong exam that takes place just after graduation.

The Chartered Financial Analyst designation is awarded to people who have passed three exams (taken in successive years) and have worked in analyzing companies or have been engaged in portfolio management for at least two years.

A total of six scholarships were made available to students...

For graduating students a passing grade on the first exam is a powerful enhancement to a candidacy for any entry-level position in money management.

There will probably be 18,000 candidates taking the exam on May 30. Almost all of them will be professionals with several years of experience. This is the first year that the local branch of the sponsoring organization has

See STUDENTS, page 3

Academic Make-Over

Significant Changes for Undergraduates

by Wayne Barr
Editor

New Physical Education Curricula:

Like most colleges, Western New England College has a physical education requisite which must be fulfilled to obtain a degree. Under the current structure, undergraduates must complete two non-credit, pass/fail courses in areas such as tennis or golf — two of the most widely taken courses on campus.

Next year, this will change.

A proposal for bringing "academic content" to the physical education requirement will finally see its fruition on campus after years of planning, research and administrative bulwarking.

Under the new program, students will be still be required to take two ten-week physical education courses: Health and Wellness (PE 151), and any one of the Lifetime Activity Series courses (PE 153-163). None of the Lifetime Activity Series courses will be open to students who have not taken PE 151.

Professor Michael Meeropol, Head of the General College Requirements Committee, believes these changes will make the Physical Education requisites more meaningful. These courses will "create academic content — they aren't classes where you run around a track and pass or fail," he said in an interview.

According to the proposal, the Health and Wellness course "will explore current health issues and self responsibility in achieving optimal health." The proposed

syllabus includes subject matter concerning eating disorders, sexually transmitted diseases, substance abuse, and environmental health. Unlike the current physical education courses, it will include significant course work.

The Lifetime Activity Series courses, while based on material covered in the Health and Wellness section, will resemble the current Physical Education courses. However, students who passed the Health and Wellness course will theoretically be putting into practice what they have learned.

"The beauty of this is that before it was just play," said Professor Meeropol. "I like to think of the [Lifetime Activity] courses as laboratory components of the personal health course."

The Lifetime Activity Series consolidates many of the courses previously offered by the college. For example, tennis, squash, badminton, and racquetball are combined in Racket Sports (PE 153). Golf, walking, and jogging are also combined in PE 155. Other courses include Aerobic Dance (PE 157), Fundamentals of Martial Arts/Kung Fu (PE 159), and Personal Fitness/Strength and Endurance Training/Wellness (PE 161).

Assistant Professor Marilyn Gass and Coach William Downes are also developing a course called Games Children Play (PE 163), which will be a requirement for students seeking certification in elementary education.

The new courses will be graded A through F and, unlike the current physical education courses, will count towards the college's overall graduation requirements. Students will now need 122 credits to graduate, however — two more than previously.

See CHANGES, page 3

ART IS MONEY

The Reveiw of Art & Literature Cover Contest

by Anne-Marie Gravel
Assistant Editor

Ever wonder what it would be like to be a famous author, poet, painter, or writer? Have you dreamed of seeing your name in lights or of having your work published for the world to see? Well, look no further, live that dream!

The Review of Art and Literature is now accepting art and literary submissions for their 1997-98 edition of the magazine.

What is *The Review*?

The Review has traditionally been a compilation of student work: drawings, paintings, etchings, photographs, poems, short stories, etc. This year the staff of *The Review* is trying to incorporate student, faculty, staff, and alumni into this year's magazine to make it a more comprehensive collec-

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NEWS

January 1998

THE WESTERNER

Wayne Barr
Editor

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Reporter

Jen Dileo
Reporter

Tony Pivero
Computer Consultant

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

Model Search And Auditions

Ms. Laureen A. Krol, Executive Director of the Barbizon Modeling Agency, is coming to the local area on Sunday, January 18, to conduct complimentary auditions at the Sheraton Hartford Hotel, downtown Hartford, off I-91 at exit 32B.

Ms. Krol will be looking for girls ages 10 - 25 to train for television commercials, films, magazines, fashion shows and other modeling opportunities in the local area through its nationally affiliated Modeling Agency. No experience is required. The event will be limited to January 18, from 11am to 5pm, and is by reservation only.

All young ladies who wish to be seen by Ms. Krol and her staff must reserve a time by calling the Barbizon Agency toll-free at 1-800-223-4613. Girls of a junior age must be accompanied by a parent.

The Barbizon School and Modeling Agency was founded over half a century ago on Fifth Avenue in New York City, and has trained thousands either for a professional modeling career, or to develop the "look," poise and confidence that helps in any career. There are presently over seventy Barbizon locations in major U.S. cities, and others in Canada, South America, Europe and Asia. Barbizon Copley Square Campus in Boston has been offering its highly respected Major Modeling and Personal Development training and its national Modeling Agency facilities to Massachusetts' young men and women since 1968. ❑

Write for *The Westerner!*

Brenda Marsian Joins Western New England College As Major Gifts Officer

News Services

SPRINGFIELD — Jane Albert, Vice President of Advancement and Marketing of Western New England College, has announced that Brenda Marsian of East Longmeadow has joined the College's staff as Director of Special Gifts. Marsian will be responsible for soliciting major gifts for the College, creating and managing major gifts programs, facilitating relationships with donors, and expanding the College's base of donors.

Marsian is a 1991 graduate of Western New England College with a degree in English, and has just completed her Masters Degree in Communications from the University of Hartford. She most recently served as the Assistant Director of Major Gifts at the University of Connecticut Foundation, and previously served as the Regional Campaign Director at Northfield Mount Hermon School. ❑

David Kruger Promoted

News Services

SPRINGFIELD— Dr. Anthony S. Caprio, president of Western New England College, has announced that David P. Kruger has been promoted to vice president of financial affairs. He had been acting chief financial officer since June 1997. His new appointment is effective immediately.

Kruger is a 1968 graduate of Western New England College with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree. He also earned his M.B.A. at the College in 1971. He began working at Western New England College in 1973 as director of financial aid and was appointed controller in 1977, a position he has held for 20 years. Prior to the promotion, Kruger was associate vice president of business and finance/controller.

"David Kruger's long experience at the College and his financial acumen and expertise make this appointment a truly outstanding one for Western New England College and its future," said Dr. Caprio.

Kruger lives in Hampden, MA, with his wife, Geraldine. They have two daughters, Karen and Amy, who graduated from Western New England College in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. ❑

Maybe There's A Reason You're Struggling

A Message From Student Disability Services

Do you find that you worked hard only to receive mediocre grades this semester? That you put more time and effort in than what your grades reflect? If so, and you have a documented learning disability or suspect that you might have one, come to Student Disability Services. Some of the services that we offer include ongoing counseling and support, with a focus on time management and study skills; peer group support; text books on audio tape; quality tutoring; assisting computer software; option for an extended time on exams; and other accommodations for taking exams, as needed.

...we offer ongoing counseling and support...

Our staff at Student Disability Services serves as a liaison between you and your professors. Our task is to make your educational experience a successful one. We will work with you to develop a plan that best meets your individual needs.

If you have any questions or if you would like to make an appointment call Student Disability Services at 782-1257 or 782-1528. If you would like to stop by we are located on the ground floor in Deliso Hall in room G05. ❑

Student Leaders Sought For Summer '98 Programs

The Fund for American Studies is recruiting student leaders from colleges and universities to participate in its 1998 summer Institutes at Geroegetown University in Washington D.C. Undergraduate students will gain critical work experience through internships in public policy, political, business, journalism, or international affairs and will earn credits through course work at prestigious Georgetown University. The final application deadline is March 15, 1998. There is no minimum GPA requirement, and students who have been active on campus are encouraged to apply.

Final application deadline is March 15, 1998.

Scholarships are available to each of The Fund's three seven-week programs: the Engalitchedd Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems, the Institute on Political Journalism, the Bryce Harlow Institute on Business and Government Affairs.

Each of the Institutes includes internships throughout the city, courses at Georgetown University taught by top-notch faculty, and unique opportunities to meet and talk with national and international leaders at site briefings, lectures, and evening dialogues. For brochures and applications, students should contact The Fund for American Studies at 1 (800) 741-6964 or visit our web site at www.dcinternships.org. ❑

DEADLINE

THE NEXT WESTERNER DEADLINE IS JANUARY 28. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

CHANGES continued from page 1

Non-freshman undergraduates still under the old physical education requirements who have not already fulfilled their obligations will no longer be required to do so — nor will they be required to enroll in the new program. According to Vice President of Academic Affairs Rex Stevens, there is "no way we can have enough people to staff both the new and the old [programs]." Transfer students will only be exempt from the requirement if they transfer in two units of physical education.

Although in past years the proposal was well-received by faculty and staff, former WNEC President Dr. Beverly W. Miller would not approve it.

Honors Program:

In the April 30, 1997 issue of the *Westerner*, Dean of Arts and Sciences Burton Porter mentioned "an Honors program" that would soon appear on campus — "the first in Western New England College's history." In the Fall of 1998, eligible students will finally be able to enroll in that program.

Eligible students will include first semester freshmen and transfer students with a 3.20 GPA from their high school or previous college, and second semester freshman with a 3.20 GPA in their first semester. Sophomores and Juniors will be able to enroll if they have a 3.20 overall GPA and 3.30 major GPA. Students will lose their eligibility and the honors designation if their GPA falls below 3.20.

Honors students, according to the proposal, "will be required to do substantial work beyond that required of students who do not register for [honors] credit."

"Students would have to produce a very high level of work," said Professor Meeropol. "It would be a totally different level of course work."

An Honors Committee consisting of two faculty members from each of the undergraduate schools and the Dean or Assistant Dean of each school will review student applications to the Honors Program, assist with the development of honors courses as proposed by the faculty, and plan extra-curricular evens for those involved in the Honors Program.

In addition to the courses themselves, three Honors Seminars taught by a faculty team will be offered on a college-wide basis. One seminar will be available for freshmen, one for sophomores, and one for juniors and seniors; all will likely require substantial research and projects.

To graduate with the honors designation students will have to complete four honors courses (one of which must be outside the major) and two honors seminars (or, alternately, one honors seminar and an honors thesis written under the guidance of a faculty sponsor).

Recent Cultures and Arts Requirement Changes:

Finally, there is the matter of the new Elements of Culture requirement (designated "C") and arts requirement (designated "A"). Several years ago an outside evaluation of Western New England College found the curricula deficient of significant course work in the arts. As it attempted to create an arts requisite to compensate for the deficiency, the faculty senate felt it was over-burdening students — particularly transfer students — with too many general requirements.

The question at this point, according to Professor Meeropol, was whether or not to throw out the cultures requirement. Introduced to the curriculum in 1981, and funded by an NEH grant, the Cultures Past and Present Program was designed to "expose" students to a culture other their own. As Meeropol pointed out, the language was somewhat vague. "It's not clear — what does 'exposure' really mean?"

Considering the need for an arts requirement and the vagueness of the culture program's ultimate purpose, it made sense to the faculty senate to create criteria which would allow some courses to fulfill both requisites. The new academic policy already applies to the spring semester.

In order to meet both "A" and "C" requirements, a humanities course must devote of at least one-third of its instruction to the music, visual arts, architecture, theater, dance, or film of the culture about which it teaches.

Currently there are two "CA" courses: Florence and Dublin (HUM 247) and The Cultures and Civilization of Latin America (HUM 350).

Because there is a separate literature requirement, students cannot fulfill the "A" requirement with a literature course. For the same reason, humanities courses with course work in cultural literature will not be allowed to count that work toward the one-third requirement.

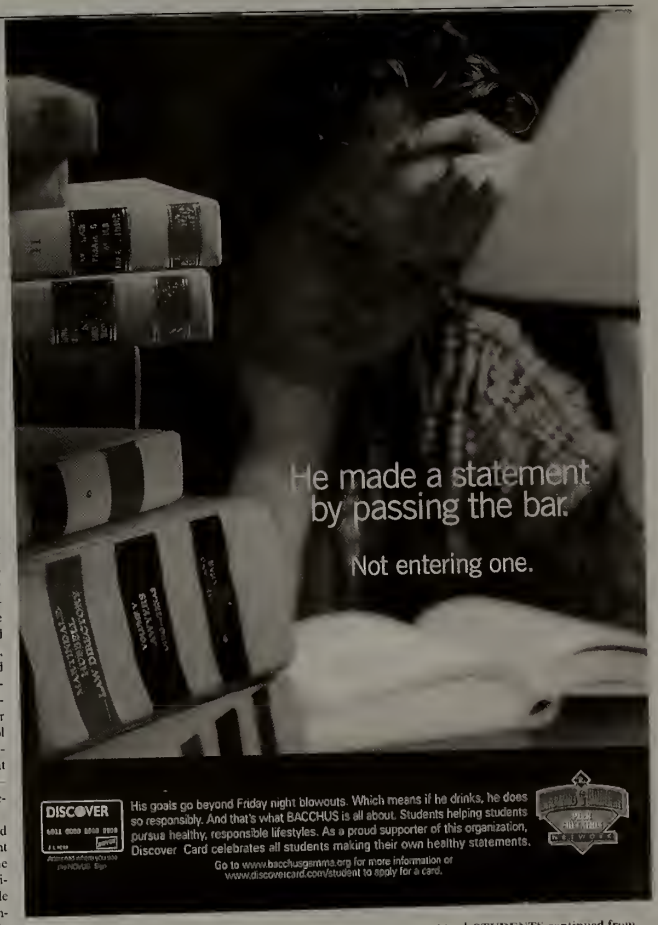
Students under the old catalogue will have the option of staying under the program they enrolled in, and transfer students will be governed by their graduating catalogue — not the current one.

Professor Meeropol is hopeful that these developments will accommodate students with heavy course loads while enriching the academic experience. Although the CA courses allow many to fulfill two requisites at once, "we would certainly encourage any student who can fit this in to satisfy the requirements with two courses," he said.

Currently the "A" requirement can be met with the college's Theater Practicum or with a variety of courses in Art and Music, but Meeropol acknowledges that more courses are needed. "We need to add approximately four more sections a semester, not this year, but next year."

Students in the School of Arts and Science, however, have an individual arts requisite under the Area I Requirements in addition to the general arts requirement, and will not be able to fulfill both through a single "A" or "CA" course. ❑

Ask *Marilyn* is on an extended vacation. Please continue to send your letters to Box 1419 and look for her in the Feburary 6th issue of *The Westerner*.



STUDENTS continued from page 1

made scholarships available to graduating seniors. A total of six scholarships were made available to students from University of Connecticut, University of Hartford, the Hartford Graduate Center, Quinnipiac College and Western New England College

Western New England College's success in capturing three out of the six scholarships is to many a reflection of the curriculum and a student body that respects practical application as well as theory. All three students have demonstrated a dedication to their studies and on that last Saturday in May the college can be confident that it will be well represented. ❑

Cupola

Confusion Part II

A Fellow Senior Commiserates

When I read Kelly Cassaburn's editorial regarding the Senior yearbook staff (the *Westerner*, 1997 Holiday Issue) I felt as though I too had to comment. I have been thoroughly frustrated with the lack of organization as well. I have spoken to yearbook staff members about it, but unfortunately they have all passed the blame to someone else.

I found out on the second day of yearbook pictures that they were being taken. I asked a staff member why we didn't receive anything in the mail. She said that there was a sign in the mall area that had been put up a day in advance. When I went to the campus mall area to confirm the presence of a sign, I found it — behind another sign. Should I have known to hunt around for this? When do I need to commit to a particular picture being submitted? "I don't know the exact date, but ASAP." Lovely.

I spoke, as a matter of fact, to the Senior Editor because I found on the next day that we were supposed to approve our yearbook pictures up in Student Activities. Well, either way I didn't receive my proof in time (this, according to the yearbook, is the photographer's fault) and they chose my Senior Yearbook picture for me (again, someone else's fault). When I began to get into an argument with Senior Editor she replied, to her detriment, "we had to choose about half of all the Senior portraits ..." Wow, that many people didn't know about it! I asked if that sent her a clear message because we, the Seniors, are not given deadlines or time frames? She put the blame back on the poor photographer.

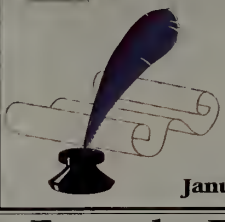
I wish that I could be as sympathetic as Kelly, but I truly can't. I understand they are leaders on campus, but you know what? So am I. And you know what else? Being a leader is a choice and if you can't do it or don't have the time — don't do it. It ends up inconveniencing more people.

My advice to the yearbook staff is to push the deadline for when the students receive yearbooks. Have Seniors (this will be our last yearbook!) choose their own pictures — we paid for them. And, of course, give us advanced notice. Send out mailings. Obviously the signs haven't been working if that many students are missing deadlines that we don't know about!

Also, we were supposed to edit our bio's? Kelly, you are one step ahead of me on that one! ❑

Christina DeGraff

EDITORIALS



January 16, 1998

From the Editors

In the early days of journalism, newspapers were often a platform for the political and artistic agenda of the editors and the reporters who worked for them. The censure of the press was open and scathing, the political endorsements free and uninhibited. The reporter himself was a romanticized figure, smoking on bar stools, listening to the woes of the everyman and always, always looking for the next "scoop."

Times, of course, have changed. Objectivity is the virtue after which reporters and editors strive — a purer rendering of the facts, free from editorial commentary and judgment. Like all changes, the trend toward media objectivity has its strong and weak points. It is good to avoid manipulation of the public, and good for the reporter and editor to keep the focus of a story on the story itself, and not the means by which it is reported. On the other hand, objectivity may be, as virtues go, unachievable. Simply by choosing which stories will appear on which page, and which stories will not appear at all, the editor makes a judgment: this subject matter is more important than that. The same is true for the reporter who decides which stories he or she will pursue. The act of choosing is itself a meaningful form of criticism.

Where does the *Westerner* fit on the media spectrum? A small paper for a small, private college, it seems clear that the *Westerner* should not merely be a device for the cold, impersonal transmission of facts. There are on-campus controversies — many political in nature — which not only affect the student population but have meaningful analogies to off-campus news events and cultural trends. Having resuscitated the paper from its brief hiatus, it is time for students to explore the relationship between the campus community and the larger one in which it exists. While the editorialization of the past is unfashionable today, it is still possible to explore provocative issues by *choosing* to report them.

Student submissions, therefore, are important: non-staff students especially are encouraged to submit articles to the *Westerner*. Without such free-lance involvement, the *Westerner* would be, like the newspapers of old, a potentially narrow-minded platform for the agenda of its editors.

There are guidelines for submissions, however: they should be typed, double-spaced, and saved on a disk in "text-only" format. (Disks can be returned after deadline; simply include your box number.) A name and phone number (or e-mail address) must also be included.

If you are thinking of writing an article for the *Westerner*, it is encouraged that you speak with the section editor before submitting. Office hours will be posted outside of the Student Publications Office.

Finally, there is a one-credit journalism course designed for students who wish to write for the paper or hone their journalism skills. Students who wish to join ENGL 290-02 ("Writing for the Westerner") should speak with their faculty advisors before January 21 or with Professor Thomas before January 28.

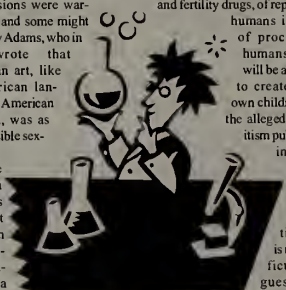
Hopefully, as the spring semester progresses, the *Westerner* can find its niche in the campus community, and eventually develop a unique voice, perhaps, even, a political stance. News articles, of course, must be free from the biased voice of the reporter, but by skillful interview and research they can still be provocative and critical; editorials, while more liberating, expressive, and frequently controversial, should also be accurate and factual. Beyond these restrictions, there is plenty of room for innovative journalism. To that end, the *Westerner* staff looks forward to hearing from you. ❑

The Fecundity of 1997

A Brief Glance Back and Ahead

There is a tendency — perhaps not a modern one — to encapsulate individual years, decades, and centuries in phrases like "the year of the Berlin Wall" or "the decade of greed" or "the century of industrialization." History is more digestible when it can define itself by a few isolated events thought to be characteristic of one segment in the unbroken fluidity of time. Perhaps, then, as the twenty-first century approaches, and as 1998 begins, one might look back and dub 1997 "the year of fecundity."

There is good, if paradoxical, precedent for this. As the numerically pleasing year 2000 looms ahead, more and more people might look to this century's intellectual anticipants to see if their apprehensions were warranted — and some might find Henry Adams, who in 1907 wrote that "American art, like the American language and American education, was as far as possible sexless."



In the modern world, this statement may seem particularly antiquated: a common sentiment is that our society is inundated with sexual explicitness. Still, it is ironic that in the fecund year of 1997 — the year of cloned sheep and fertility drugs, of replicated animals and litters of Homo sapien children — human intimacy was less than ever a factor in the reproductive process. The recent announcement of a doctor's intentions to clone humans for infertile couples falls within the spectrum of sexless procreation, and while it may not have been quite what Adams had in mind back in 1907, there is an eerie connection.

There are different ways to take this, of course. It seems a triumph that science can be useful in the fulfillment of nature, that drugs and medication can facilitate an otherwise impossible pregnancy to produce improbable lives. Yet there are ethical ramifications which seem to go unstated. However, notwithstanding the ethics of cloning, or of fertility drugs as the global population swells — notwithstanding all this, one might simply ask if society is ready for this sort of human production in any significant way.

For example, the recent multiple births of seven white babies in Iowa overshadowed, according to a recent editorial in *USA Today*, the birth of black sextuplets to another couple. Corporate donations and media coverage showered the Iowa babies, and celebrity followed. While the particulars of this controversy could be debated ad infinitum, there is perhaps another, larger question: if there is to be a society of sexless births and fertility drugs, of replicated humans instead of procreated humans, *who* will be allowed to create their own children? If the alleged favoritism published in *USA Today* is any indication, it is not difficult to guess that certain classes and races will be scientifically "favored."

One might insist, in response to all this, that the maternal and paternal instincts should not be thwarted by physical incapacity; that — again, ironically — the seemingly individualistic need to satisfy one's "instincts" should not prevent anyone from creating other beings. Perhaps, but is the civilized world ready for such Star Trek-ish fertility? What of the "moral force" behind the mysteries of procreation, which in other times inspired artists and poets?

One hundred years after Adams, in the waning, sexless glow of any such "force," one might simply hope that a wiser, more benevolent race from another world would come and gently take away that for which humankind is not ready and does not understand. ❑

Wayne Barr

Next *Westerner* meeting: Tuesday January 20. 12:30. Student Publications Office.

A Brush With the Blues

Jack Coughlin's Work on Display at UMass

UMASS — As part of its celebration of Black History Month, Augusta Savage Gallery at the University of Massachusetts will host an exhibit of portraits by former UMass professor Jack Coughlin entitles "A Brush With the Blues." The exhibit will be on display February 2-27 with an opening reception on Monday, February 2 from 5-7pm.

Jack Coughlin
Photo Credit: **Steve Long**

In "A Brush With the Blues" Jack Coughlin combines his love of music with his passion for art. Inspired by his respect for these great musicians, Mr. Coughlin captures the essence of these Blues legends in swirls of color, sculpting the images into the mind with the sure hand of a master. In this exhibit Mr. Coughlin is at once a painter and colorist of great talent who brings his considerable skill to a subject he clearly loves.

Jack Coughlin is a painter, sculptor, and printmaker who, prior to his retirement in 1995, was a Professor of Art at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst for over 30 years. He was born in Greenwich, Connecticut in 1932 and attended the Arts Students League in New York City and then the Rhode Island School of Design, where he received his B.F.A. in 1954 and his M.F.A. in 1961.

His work hangs in many public and private collections both in the U.S. and abroad, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art; The Modern Museum of Art in New York City; the National Collection of Fine Art in Washington, D.C.; The Norfolk Museum of Arts and Sciences in Virginia; and the Worcester Art Museum. He has had one-artist shows at the University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; the David Hendriks Gallery, Dublin; the Ainsworth Gallery in Boston; Harvard University, Cambridge; and Associated American Artists, New York City to name just a few.

Some of his awards include the *John Taylor Arms Memorial Prize*, National Academy of Design, New York City; *Madison Award for Etching*, Society of American Graphic Artists Exhibition, New York City; *New Jersey State Museum of Art Prize for Etching*, Hunterton Art Center, Clinton, New Jersey; *Award for Printing*, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; and the *Helen Loggie Prize for Drawing*, National Academy of Design, New York City.

He regularly contributes artwork to *The New Republic* and his illustrations also appear in numerous books, including *Twelve Birds*, University of Massachusetts Press; Austin Clarke, *Mnemsyne in Dust*, Dolmen Press; Robert Francis, *Six Poems by Robert Francis*, Sawmill Press; *Thirteen Irish Writers on Ireland*, David R. Godine, Publisher; and his own *Grotesques*, *Twenty Untitled Etching*, Aquarius Press.

Jack Coughlin's works have clearly established him as a printmaker of extraordinary ability as he is one of only seventeen printmakers who are members of The National Academy of Design. He was elected an Associate Member of the National Academy of Design, New York City in 1977 and is now a full member. Currently, he and his wife, Joan Hopkins, a painter, reside in Montague and Wellfleet, Massachusetts. ❑

Arts & Entertainment

January 16, 1997

Turn to 105.1, *WNEK*, for great college radio!

All The Way From Maine: *Kalliope*

A Band to Consider

by George Semanie, Jr.

A&E Co-Editor

As the winter break was approaching I was searching for a new sound to calm and settle my nerves as I thought ahead to the next semester. Rage Against the Machine? Nah, too heavy. Or how about Seal? Too sappy. It wasn't until I was given a chance to listen to this new group out of Maine that I found what I was looking for. Kalliope's "Altogether Elsewhere" provides a new sound that (according to them) can be compared to "a river, with rapids, calm stretches, shallows and depths."

The band is lead by the singer and songwriter George Skala. Skala is lucky to have his gifts in music writing and an ability to come out with a fresh new sound. Diverse with his arrangement of songs, he was able to captivate me as I listened throughout the tape.

The band itself consists of five other members with ages and musical talents ranging across the board. Percussionists Tim Bilkowski and Tom Boutureira are acrobatic in their pursuit of sound, which contains elements of jazz and metal, and, if you listen closely enough, a Latin influence. Bilkowski's musical influences are in mysterious lands such as Egypt, which allows his sound to be all the more unique.

Violinist Lauren Rioux spends her free time with the Bangor Symphony Youth Orchestra. She provides Skala with some articulate background vocals and adds an emotional performance which can be heard on all the chords she plays.

Duane Ingalls, who is the guitar force behind Kalliope, also provides background vocals and adds his expertise on the keyboard. His influence in folk music provides an experimental element to the band that proves beneficial to the finished product.

Jeff Shaw provides the beat with the bass and rhythm guitar. He brings to the band his interest in the history of music and the theory of its creative emphasis.

It is surprising to hear that their influences as a band stem from Shakespeare and Dali. "Altogether Elsewhere" was able to provide the listener with a rhythmic sound altogether unique and I believe it is a sound they can call their own. The melodies have a way of sticking in your head and I really enjoyed the acoustic and electric rhythms of rock music. The band has found a way to incorporate orchestra, rock, and folk with an intimate sound ready to relax you and set your mind free. Oh, and if you were wondering, "Kalliope" stems from a Greek word meaning "beautiful-voiced"; it is also a pipe organ located at the center of the carousel and the first of Greek Mythology's nine muses.

So for those of you who wish to hear Kalliope's "Altogether Elsewhere," you can request it on our own WNEK radio station at 105.1 FM (just in case you forgot). They have won the interest of this music lover and hopefully they can capture your mind and descend into your soul. ❑

Coming to Video...

Standoff
Rated "R"

Written and Directed by Andrew Chapman, Produced by Dan Stone.

Starring Robert Sean Leonard (*Dead Poets Society* and *Age of Innocence*), Natasha Henstridge (*Species* and *Maximum Risk*), Dennis Haysbert (*Heat*, *Absolute Power*, and *Waiting to Exhale*) and Keith Carradine (*A Thousand Acres* and *Two Days in the Valley*).

Synopsis: After a botched FBI raid on a cultist stronghold, five men and two young women seek shelter in an abandoned farmhouse against a cult-engineered backdrop of deadly gunfire and explosive violence. But when the besieged survivors begin to die mysteriously, one-by-one, it's clear there is a traitor among them. The suspense and mounting tension ignite a ticking time bomb of suspicion, rage and betrayal that explodes in a startling, harrowing climax.

Release Date: February 9, 1998. ❑

ART continued from page 1

tion of work.

The staff of *The Review* is currently running their "Art Is Money" cover contest. A $75 certificate will be given to the grand prize winner of the cover contest, while a $50 certificate will be given to the second place winner and a $25 certificate to the third. All certificates will be given to the winners' location of choice.

The rules of the cover contest are as follows: 1) the work must be an original (no replications of other artist's work please), 2) only students of the college are eligible for participation, and finally 3) all entries must be received by March 6, 1998.

In addition to the cover contest, *The Review* staff is also creating a contest for student writers. More information will be given in the next issue of *The Westerner*.

Anyone interested in submitting to The Review should drop off their submissions to the Student Publications Office (782-1581), Campus Center room #163, or see Anne-Marie Gravel or Dr. Janet Bowdan for details. ❑

Men's Bowling Team Finishes on Top, Again

by Richard Burns
Bowling Coach

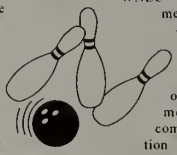
New Jersey — Over the Holiday break, Western New England College's men's bowling team traveled to southern New Jersey to bowl in two major tournaments. The 11th Annual Collegiate Invitational was held at Maple Shade, New Jersey, on December 27-28. WNEC bowled very well, ending up 22nd out of 45 men's teams.

While individual team games won and lost do not determine a team's final standings, they are a benchmark of how a team is doing. WNEC had victories over Towson State, Bryant and Ohio State and lost very close matches to Michigan State, Buffalo State and Sacred Heart. The nine game team total was 9106, an average of 1012 per game or 203 per person. While there were several standout scores, all team members contributed equally to the team's success.

The second tournament was the Brunswick Northeast Collegiate Showdown held at Cross Keys Lanes in Turnersville, New Jersey on December 29-30. WNEC did really well in this one, beating Howard, Tidewater Community College Robert Morris, Canisius, West Virginia and Buffalo State.

After the six games of the first day, WNEC was well-positioned in sixth place out of 42 teams. Dave Mastropasqua, freshman, was in at that point in third place, with a 1414 total, an average of 235.7 per game. Although the WNEC bowlers had exhibited great team playing before, on the final day they began to tire. The eighth game was a weak one, followed by three below-average Baker games. WNEC slipped from its front-runner position to 15th in the standings. Often it was only a few pins separating one team from another. Still, this was an excellent showing for a young team bowling in a tournament against the best college bowling teams east of the Mississippi.

The Tri-State College Bowling Confer- ence — of which WNEC is a member — begins its second semester competition on January 25 at West Point. WNEC's two men's squads are in first and second place, with a combined total team record of 10-2. The men's averages are:



David Mastropasqua 198; Beau Highfill — 194; Kurt Clark — 192; Pete Fowler — 191; David Chess — 187; Brian Stromwall — 186; Joe Weber —186; Paul Nuzzo — 182; Ethan Lowry — 182; Jeff Freyermuth — 179; Jason Tuz — 177; Eric Scuilla —176; and Bob Shoemaker — 171.

The women's three doubles teams are in first, second, and third place in their division. The women's averages are: Angela Shanon — 165; Jamie Barras — 164; Kim Hynda — 155; Joanne Krivak — 151; Shannon Hoye — 139; Leana Monteir — 135; and Amber Keumurian — 121.

Those wishing to see the WNEC bowlers in action can catch them on Saturday, February 7th at Riverdale Lanes, West Springfield, where they will be bowling from noon to 5:00pm in a conference match. ❑

Bowling Team Captains:

Women
Junior, Jamie Barras & Sophomore, Angela Shannon

Men
Senior, Brian Stromwall & Junior, Pete Fowler

Sports

January 16, 1998

Intramural Basketball

DEADLINE FOR ROSTERS

NOON

TUESDAY

JANUARY 20

Rosters can be obtained in the athletic office of the Alumni Healthful Living Center.

Harlem Globetrotters Coming to Springfield

Known as the most popular, most recognized and most revered basketball team in the world, the Harlem Globetrotters are suiting up for an all-star performance at the Springfield Civic Center on Thursday, February 12th at 7:30pm.

Tickets are scheduled to go on sale January 5th at the Springfield Civic Center Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets in Western Massachusetts and Connecticut. To order by telephone, call the Civic Center at (413) 787-6600 and (800) 639-8692 or call Ticketmaster at (413) 733-2500. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.civic-center.com. Ticket prices are $10.50, $15.50 and $19.50. A limited number of VIP seats are also available.

For more than 70 years, the "magicians of Basketball" have entertained more than 100 million fans while bringing innovations and their spirit of goodwill to the game. Join the Globetrotters as they approach the historic record of playing their unprecedented 20,000th game this season.

In keeping with their legacy as innovators in the sport of basketball, the Globetrotters are a tradition that is anything but traditional. From artistic and acrobatic slam-dunks and their magical competitive play, to sidesplitting comic skits, their team mascot Globie, theatrical lighting and special effects, a hard-driving musical score, and more, you'll find there's something for everyone. The famous red, white and blue will face their worldly opponents, the New York Nationals. The Globetrotters will offer an autograph session after the game.❑

AEROBICS! AEROBICS!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
7:15 - 8AM Early Bird Step (Cyndi)	*3:45 - 4:45PM* Triple Challenge (Patricia M.)	7:15 - 8AM Early Bird Step (Amanda)	3:45 - 4:45PM Triple Challenge (Patricia M.)	2 - 3PM Super Step (Amanda)
2:45 - 3:30PM Trim and Tone full body toning (Laurie)	*4:45 - 5:30PM* H2O Aerobics (Suzanne)	2:45 - 3:30PM Trim and Tone full body toning (Laurie)	4:45 - 5:30PM H2O Aerobics (Suzanne)	
3:30 - 4:30PM Super Step (Laurie)	*4:45 - 5:45PM* Yoga (Corine)	4:45 - 5:30PM Sunset Step (Jenn)		
4:45- 5:30PM Sunset Step (Jenn)		7 - 8PM Aerobics/Step (Lauren)		
4:45 - 5:30 H2O Aerobics (Suzanne)				
7 - 8PM Aerobics/ Step (Trish)				

Toning/Muscle Conditioning: A 45 minute intense workout to help you firm up and increase muscle strength.

Super Step: A 1 hour moderate to high intensity STEP class with some funk and plenty of exciting exercises!!

Sunset Step: A 45 minute moderate intensity STEP class! This class is good for the first time stepper as well as the veteran. Come one, come all!!

H2O Aerobics: A 45 minute aerobic class in the water. This class is great for your knees and other joints. It's FUN and it's cool in the pool!

Early Bird Step: A 45 minute moderate intensity STEP class. This class is the perfect way to start you day!

Aerobics/Step Combo: A 1hr. class including the best of STEP and aerobics! How could you ask for more?!?!

Triple Challenge: A 1hr. class that offers a little bit of everything including STEP, hi/low impact aerobics, and muscle condition ing.

THE CAMPUS OVERNIGHT PROGRAM

WOULD YOU...like to give a high school senior the opportunity to experience a full day of campus life by hosting them for a night in your residence hall, eating meals with them, and having them attend classes with you?

DO YOU... live in Windham, Berkshire, Franklin, or Hampden?

ARE YOU...enthusiastic, responsible, and willing to help perspective students with their college choice?

WOULD YOU...enjoy becoming a role model, and oftentimes the first impression of the student body (and first friend on campus) to these soon-to-be college freshmen?

IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO THE ABOVE, THEN CONSIDER BECOMING A CAMPUS OVERNIGHT PROGRAM HOST!

The purpose of the Campus overnight Program is to provide students with the opportunity to experience student life — both academically and socially — on our campus within a well-defined and structured 24-hour period. These students use this experience as a means of comparing the colleges they're interested in in order to narrow down their college choices.

The Campus Overnight Program Coordinators pair hosts and guests by major, athletic interest and/or home state. Guests arrive between the morning and afternoon and meet their host at the Admissions Office. Overnight visits are usually scheduled at least two weeks in advance for typically on full day, Mondays through Fridays only, unless there is a special circumstance.

As a volunteer host to overnight guests, you play an important role in the admissions process. Your honesty, commitment and hospitality are long remembered after the campus visit!

Two Information Sessions will be held in early February for students who would like to host.

Please contact Betsie Rugg or Karen Talbot, the Campus Overnight Program Coordinators, in the Admissions Office if you would like to be a Campus Overnight Host at 782-1321.

Get Involved!

Golden Bear Classifieds

Announcements

HeyStudents! Are you interested in being on a committee to create a new, exciting area in what is now the People's Place? For more information contact Geoff Stowell A.S.A.P.

1/16, *Friday's* - Double Feature: "Animal House" and "Blues Brothers." Sponsored by CAB.

1/18, College Nite.

1/19, Martin Luther King Day. No Day Classes. Evening Classes Begin at 5pm.

1/19, A Musical Tribute to the Life and Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King. 7:00pm, Dining Rm B.

Want discount movie tickets? Hate paying $7.50 to see a movie at Showcase Cinemas? Visit the **Info Booth** and pick up your tickets in advance for only $5.00!

1/20, Peer Advisor applications available. See Dean Zern's office for details.

1/20, Yoga begins. Alumni Healthful Living Center. 4:45pm.

1/21, Last day to ADD a course without Instructor's permission.

1/22, Resident Advisor informational meeting. Visit the office of Residence Life for details. 2nd floor, Campus Center.

The *Review of Art & Literature* is now accepting submissions. If interested please contact Anne-Marie @ 782-1581 or drop your submissions at the Student Publications Office, CC Rm# 163.

1/23, Friday's -- Coffee House. Sponsored by Residence Life.

1/25, Super Bowl Sunday.

Visit Career and Human Resources if you're interested in a job, internship, or help on your Resume. Campus Center, Second floor.

Announcements

1/26, CAB movie -- "Air Force One."

1/28, Last day to ADD a course.

1/28, Westerner deadline. Submit articles, advertisements, letters to Marilyn, Sports, A&E, Editorials

1/30, Friday's -- Sounds of Motown. 8:30pm.

1/31, Open House.

Do you want your events to have magnificent turnouts? Then why haven't you placed your FREE 30 word classified ad yet? What are you waiting for? You have nothing to lose, unless of course you fail to use ALL of your resources!

Advertise Here!
We want your business!
You need us! We're your link to WNEC.
Call 782-1580.

2/2, CAB Movie -- "Groundhog Day."

2/2, Senate Petitions Available.

2/3, Yoga. Alumni Helathful Living Center.

2/4, CAB Comedy Night. Dining Room A. 8:00pm.

2/5, Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, Author: RAp Music, Lecture -- Diversity. 7:00pm. Sleith 100.

Do you want to see you and your friends in the yearbook this year? The yearbook is looking for you to submit CANDIDS. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday, January 21. Drop photos off at the Student Publications office. Please enclose in envelope and inciude your name, box number, or address for safe return. *Thanks!*

Announcements

2/6, Friday's -- Reggae. Sponsored by U&ME.

2/7, Senior Class Countdown Party.

Lost & Found

We have the following items in the Information Booth: Keys, Glasses, Barrette, Sun glasses, Copy card, Watch, Student ID, Fleece, YMCA membership card, and a Child's jacket. Please come and claim.

For Sale

Do you have something to sell? Did you lose something? Have an announcement to make? Contact *the Westerner* and place your classified ad today! 782-1580.

Jobs

We HAVE positions available! We are looking for a few more hardworking, dedicated staff members to fill the following positions: News Editor, Editorial Editor, and Copy Editor. If you are looking for an excellent and rewarding way to enhance your resume, then look no further. Contact the staff of *The Westerner* for more information: 782-1580, leave a message; or stop by the Student Publications Office, in the Campus Center (across from WNEK.)

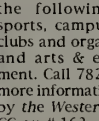
Looking for a job for after graduation? For next semester? For the summer? Then see Career and Human Resources' weekly news letter. Available in C&HR and around the Campus Center. Pick yours up today!

Place your Ad here.

Wanted

Staff writers. *the Westerner* is looking for freelance writers to cover the following areas: sports, campus events, clubs and organizations, and arts & entertainment. Call 782-1580 for more information or stop by *the Westerner* office, CC rm # 163.

Poems, short stories, essays, plays, photographs, sketches, paintings, drawings, watercolors...We want your masterpieces! We want your talent! *The Review of Art & Literature* is now accepting submissions. Contact *The Review* staff at 782-1581, visit CC Rm # 163, or see Anne-Marie Gravel for more information.



Hey Seniors!!

Have you thought of what you're going to put in your senior will yet? Details coming soon....Keep your eyes and ears open....

ADVERTISING INTERNSHIP AVAILABLE

If you are interested in a career in advertising, or would like to enhance your resume with practical business experience, a 3-credit internship with the *Westerner* may be perfect for you! This is an opportunity to become involved with local businesses in the community and expand the range of advertising for the newspaper. Students enrolled in the School of Business are especially encouraged to apply, although applications from all students will be considered.

Applications are available at the Career and Human Resources office in the second floor of the campus center. Don't miss your chance to take advantage of this exciting opportunity.

Editor Positions Available

Do you like to write? Are you grammatically proficient? Do your friends often ask you to proofread their papers? Are you interested in a career in the field of communications? If so, you may wish to consider working for the *Westerner*. Currently there are three positions available: News Editor, Editorial Editor, and Copy Editor.

The News Editor is responsible for selecting stories to appear in the news section of the *Westerner*, generating story ideas, reviewing in-coming press releases, and designing layout for his or her section.

Sport Management Majors Attend Workshop in the Fleet Center, see page 13

Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

February 6, 1998

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 43 / Issue 7

Party in The Peoples Place

Students Gather at Faculty Hang-out

by Devid Weinberg
Sports Editor

On January 25, a new and welcomed side of Western New England College appeared on campus. A non-alcoholic sports bar was constructed in The Peoples Place for Super Bowl Sunday, where at least 100 people attended at various times.

As CAB chairperson Amy Hoosick indicated, "this was a great tumout for a late-planned program."

> ***"As student awareness increases, The Peoples Place will be used for many non-sporting functions as well."***

According to Dean Druzza, The Peoples Place will now function as an on-campus location for students to get together, hold events, or just hang out.

The atmosphere was warm and friendly as bewildered foothall fans watched the underdog Denver Broncos triumph over the defending Super Bowl champion Green Bay Packers, 31-24. During half-time people had an opportunity to win WNEC Pennants, movie tickets, shirts, sports almanacs, and calendars via a raffle.

The Peoples Place had numer-

See PLACE, page 4

Student Bill Proposal

Ryan Courtemanche Works to Formalize Grievance Procedure

by Weyne Berr
Editor

On Tuesday, February 3, at 12:30pm, club presidents met with members of student senate to discuss a new Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.

The bill calls for the formalization of the grievance process, and it details the procedures by which students will be able to redress unfair grades or academic mistreatment.

Currently, students who feel they have received unfair grades have no documented way to address their eoncerns. An informal procedure is understood by some, hut sophomore class president Ryan Courtemanche believes that the new bill will clarify the issue of student grievances.

Under the informal procedurc, students attempt to solve academic differences with the professors themselves, the chair of the department, or the dean. According to Courtemanche, this method is not only informal, but is sometimes ineffective, especially when a student feels discriminated against.

"Students often feel intimidated by a teacher, and worry that their grade will be affected," he said.

According to the latest revision of the Student Bill of Academic Rights and Responsibilities, students who fail to resolve problems on their own will be able to submit their grievances to the Student Grievance Committee, "within 10 days of the last action to resolve the situation informally."

The Student Grievance Committee consists of 3 full-time faculty members, 3 full-time undergraduates, and 3 part-time undergraduates, and functions only on the undergraduate level.

According to Courtemanche, the existence of a formal grievance procedure will also educate students about their rights in the classroom.

"Students have to realize that the views presented in the classroom are not the only views out there," he said. "Some teachers won't say that, and won't represent other views."

Initially the bill met "a lot of opposition and skepticism" when presented to faculty members who "worried that students would go crazy about changing their grades," said Courtemanche.

Yvonne Bogle, President of the Human Relations Committee, concurred. "Some people felt, why do we need this, there's already a process in place," she said. "But when you have any kind of changes you worry that people will use it and abuse it."

At this time, most faculty members are "receptive and supportive" of the bill, said Bogle. There are provisions in the bill intended to protect teachers from outdated grievances.

Courtemanche insisted that the bill's purpose is not to create any special advantages for students. "I didn't want teachers to feel like they were on the losing end of things," he said, point-

Ryan Courtemanche (Far right in light blue) speaks with club presidents about the proposed Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities.

See GRIEVANCE, page 4

Public Safety Gets More Human

by Josh Shear
Staff Writer

The Public Safety Department at Western New England College is making itself more user-friendly.

According to department chief Gary Barnes, opening up lines of communication between the Department and the campus community has made the purpose of the Department more clear to others and is helping the Department become more effective.

Barnes believes that the recent addition of a student patrol has been one of the most important developments within the Department. He said that when he started working at WNEC 8 years ago, between 24 and 30 cars were being stolen each year. After putting up security cameras several

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NEWS

February 1998

THE WESTERNER

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Tables, Desks, and New Technology

Modernizing the Classrooms of Western New England College

by Wayne Barr

On Wednesday, January 21, a burgeoning technology committee met to discuss the development of a technological infrastructure at Western New England College. There are three broad components of the "modernization" of classrooms and residence halls: computer data, video cable, and phone services.

The committee was formed to replace an earlier one which, according to vice president of financial affairs David Kruger, "fizzled out" last year. Before the new committee can fully address the complexities of technology in the classroom, however, it will have to settle the deceptively simple issue of furniture.

"There are a number of instructional styles that have different furniture requirements," said David Kruger in a post-meeting interview.

"The School of Business tends to prefer table and chairs," he said, but added that many professors feel that tablet desks are more conducive to classroom discussions, since they can be easily moved.

Many students, on the other hand, feel that the tablet desks are too small, uncomfortable, and confining.

One committee member at Wednesday's meeting suggested that tables accommodating more than one student could increase the likelihood of academic dishonesty.

"If you stop and think about it," Kruger said, "how much further away is a table chair than a desk?" He pointed out that there might be ways of overcoming such difficulties — test partitions, for example.

Despite the furniture controversy, Kruger said he believed that "everyone is in agreement that the classrooms need to be modified." As many as four different classroom models may be developed to accommodate both the styles of teaching preferred by faculty and the impending technology that will go in them.

As it selects an academically and technologically ergonomic classroom, the committee will also have to decide what sort of equipment will be added to the classrooms and residence halls.

"There are a lot of big decisions with a lot of implications that determine how we proceed," Kruger said. As the committee tries to decide how to equip a given classroom with video technology, for example, it will have to keep future objectives in mind.

"As we install this technology, at some point in the future, we may want to originate TV in the classroom," Kruger speculated. Such video origination could mean that students would be able to watch televised lectures from outside the classroom — perhaps from other classrooms or their own resident halls. Guest speakers and special presentations could also be broadcast to the campus community.

As Kruger pointed out, such developments are contingent upon many factors, and the technology committee is still in its formative stages.

Modifications to student dormitories are included in the agenda for a technological infrastructure.

"Students have complained about having only one telephone in a room ... but if you provide a data connect [to replace the modem outlet], you would have two phone lines," Kruger said. Should the college choose to provide students with the additional phones, the expense would be reflected in charges students pay, said Kruger.

To finance the changes, the committee is contemplating going into debt finance, borrowing a tax-exempt bond to be paid back over a period of years. ❑

National Effort Against Eating Disorders

Western New England College Participates in Screening Process, Offers Services

Western New England College will join hundreds of colleges across the country in the second National Eating Disorders Screening Program (NEDSP) during the annual student/employee Health Fair. Counseling Services will hold the free program on Monday, February 16 at the Alumni Healthful Living Center. All screenings are free and anonymous.

"Over the past several years, we have experienced a dramatic increase in the number of students who have sought help with their eating disorder," said Dr. Wayne Carpenter, director of the Counseling Services on campus.

"It is our hope that with outreach efforts such as the screening, more students will become aware that help is available on this campus," he said.

Carpenter stated that in addition to individual therapy sessions, the counseling center also runs a weekly group support meeting for students with eating disorders. Any student who is struggling with an eating disorder is invited to join the group, whether or not he or she is in individual counseling.

"Left unchecked, eating disorders can kill."

At the Health Fair all students will be asked to fill out an anonymous questionnaire about eating attitudes. Participants will be given a test number and phone number to call to get their results. They will be able to call Counseling Services, give their number (not their name) and speak with a counselor about their results.

"It's our intention to make the screening process as easy and safe as possible," said Dr. Carpenter. "By encouraging all the students who stop by our booth to fill out the questionnaire, and only use numbers to match people to their questionnaire, no one will feel singled out and everyone's results will be completely anonymous."

Eating disorders are illnesses that are associated with severe body image distortion and an obsession with weight. Sufferers are terrified of gaining weight and continue to diet, binge, or binge and purge even as their mental and physical health deteriorate.

In addition to depression and substance abuse disorders, victims of eating disorders can also develop heart problems, osteoporosis, and reproductive difficulties.

Left unchecked, eating disorders can kill.

Students who are concerned that they or a friend may have an eating disorder are encouraged to contact Counseling Services. The service is friendly, free, non-judgmental, and absolutely confidential. To make an appointment, stop by room 249 of the Campus Center or call 782-1221. ❑

Caprio Announces New Program

Dr. Anthony S. Caprio, president of Western New England College, has announced an innovative program which will allow qualified students at the College to receive their Bachelor and Juris Doctor degrees in six years instead of seven.

The 3+3 Program will allow students to begin their first year at the Western New England College School of Law during their fourth year of study at the College. The program will be available in the Fall 1998 semester.

"The outstanding faculty and curriculum of the Western New England College School of Law are a major asset of the College. This excellent early admission program will permit our finest undergraduates to bring to the study of law, with economy of time and finances, their solid educational foundation gained as undergraduates in the College's Schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, and Engineering. Western New England College once again is mindful of the professional needs and aspirations of its students," said Caprio.

Students who apply for the program must have a grade point average of 3.3 and must score at or above the 50th percentile on the LSAT or at or above the median LSAT for School of Law matriculates (whichever is higher).

Transfer students must be able to present grades for at least 15 credit hours of undergraduate studies at Western New England College to be eligible to apply for the 3+3 Program.

"This arrangement demonstrates the College's commitment to recognizing and rewarding outstanding academic performance and to lowering the costs associated with undergraduate and graduate education," said Donald J. Dunn, interim dean of the Western New England College School of Law.

Currently, programs similar to the 3+3 program are at only a few other law schools in the Northeast. ❑

DEADLINE

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PLACE, *from page 1*

ous tables, as well as two couches from which people could view the game at any angle on four 27-inch television sets. Food and drinks were provided free of charge. A taste of WNEC sports was also evident with several pictures of players and their teams.

In the long run, The Peoples Place will be more oriented toward WNEC athletics and sports fans, providing this concept is well received by students. A WNEC Golden Bear may be displayed, as well as pictures of Players of the Week. An "after game special" would give WNEK-FM an opportunity to interview athletes and coaches, while students could have their pictures taken with them as well.

Furthermore, intramural information would be provided for students. Students may also have a chance to hang-out or watch professional sports on television several nights a week.

Various other types of entertainment have been suggested to be put in The Peoples Place, such as a dart board, pinball machine, and a juke box.

Already there are plans to hold special Olympic-related events, as well as the NHL playoffs.

As student awareness increases, The Peoples Place will be used for many non-sporting functions as well. For example, *The Review of Art and Literature* will be sponsering an npenmic coffee house on Tuesday, February 24 from 8:00 to 11:00pm. Students, faculty and staff are invited to read their poetry and short fiction or perform in their own creative capacity.

Dean Diruzza encourages students to utilize the renovated Peoples Place.

During the day, the faculty will still be allowed to eat where they always have. ❑

REACHING FOR DIVERSITY

A CONFERENCE FOR MINORITIES INTERESTED IN LAW

Join us to find out how to make aspirations of a legal career a reality for minorities. If you are a high school or college student interested in someday becoming an attorney, or you provide career guidance to young people, join us for this important event and help us reach for greater diversity in the legal profession.

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A panel discussion with current lawyers and law students

Western New England College
School of Law
Springfield, Massachusetts

Saturday
Feb. 7, 1998
11a.m. to 3p.m.

Western New England College
School of Law
1215 Wilbraham Road
Springfield, Massachusetts

Lunch will be provided free of charge.
Pre-registration is preferred.

Call (413) 782-1406

Use Your Time Wisely...

Write for *The Westerner!*

GRIEVANCE, *from page 1*

ing out that the bill represents student responsibilities as well as rights.

Courtemanche began working on the student grievance project in October, assembling similar bills of student rights from other colleges to form the current proposal. He admitted that the there is still room for improvement as the committee formalizes procedures.

The bill states, for example, that students are "free to take reasoned and reasonable exception — without interference — to data and views presented in any course." Courtemanche acknowledged that it is not always easy to define "reasoned and reasonable."

"We're still open to changes," he said. "[The revised bill] isn't final yet ... and student ideas are always welcome."

At the meeting of club presidents on February 3, student leaders discussed concerns about teacher retaliation and the likelihood of the bill being taken seriously by administration. Some gave suggestions about student evaluations of professors, but Courtemanche said that before such concerns could be addressed, the bill should be formalized and published in next year's student handbook.

Some suggested that the language should be made simpler so the bill would be more easily understood by students.

On Thursday, February 12, an open forum about the Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities bill will be held at 12:30pm in Dining Room B. The entire college is invited to attend. ❑

SAFETY, *from page 1*

years later, auto theft dropped to about six to eight incidents a year. That number did not improve in the following years.

"The first year we had student patrol ... we had two reports, and one of those was questionable in the way it was reported," Barnes said in praise of the patrol.

Now in its second year, the student patrol consists of 12 students who act as the "eyes and ears" for the Department. Members of the patrol wear jackets identifying themselves as such and carry radios so they can be in close contact with the Department of Public Safety.

Barnes provides a brochure for anyone not familiar with the Department. The brochure gives an overview of the people in the Department and also gives statistics showing the decline of several crimes on campus in the last few years. In addition, the brochure contains information about surveillance cameras in residence halls and instructions for using emergency phones on campus.

Barnes stressed that officers in the Department are fully trained police officers. All are certified policemen who have been sworn in, and they have the same powers of arrest as Springfield police officers. Members of the student patrol, although trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and as first responders, are not police officers and cannot make arrests.

While WNEC police officers do collaborate on some investigations with the Springfield police, particularly those members of the Springfield force who do community policing in the 16 Acres neighborhood, they do not have jurisdiction off campus. The Department receives many complaints from neighbors of off-campus students about loud parties, and assists the Springfield police however it can to keep the students respectful of their neighbors.

The Department of Public Safety also collaborates with other law enforcement agencies. Since most of the crime reported on campus is alcohol and drug related, the Department has had to work with the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency in the past, and Captain Barnes said that "we also work with other Federal agencies like the FBI, the Treasury Department, the IRS or the secret service."

Most of the complaints the Department receives are noise complaints. Harassing phone calls and crimes of disorderliness are most common. There are also a lot of complaints of misdemeanor theft, which is theft of objects valued under $250. Barnes said that these thefts are mostly students stealing from other students.

In compliance with state law, the Department has a blotter that anyone is allowed to see. The person requesting to see the blotter does not have to be a member of the campus community. The blotter is essentially a log of the time a complaint was logged, the location from which it arrived, and a brief description of it.

One thing Barnes feels really needs improvement is the relationship between the Department and WNEC faculty. He said that "the faculty, like other campuses, is kind of in its own world. The faculty knows very little about public safety." He said that he is trying to change that by putting together an information sheet that is to be mailed to everyone involved with the campus-including the faculty.

Above all, Barnes said the Department needs positive feedback from the students. He plans to distribute a survey to find out what students think the Department can do to better serve the community, because "ultimately, we're here to serve you. We serve the student body. What could we do that would make your life easier?"

Students who are interested in finding out more about the Department of Public Safety are encouraged to do so. Students interested in student patrol should see Gene Allen at the Alumni Healthful Living Center. The Department also offers a CPR course and ride-alongs. While the number of students who may actually get to ride around campus in a cruiser is small, the Department will try to accommodate as many interested people as it can. ❑

Campus Activities Board

WinterFest '98

Saturday 2/14	"House Jacks" Acapella Group. Dining Room A. Sponsored with Windam Hall
Monday 2/16	"Flipper Dave" Band. Dining Room A. 8:00pm. Health Fair — HLC Lobby
Tuesday 2/17	CAB Fair, 12-2pm Karaoke Kraze. People's Place. 8:00pm.
Wednesday 2/18	"Big Money Bingo." Dining Room A. 8:00pm. Co-sponsored with Gateway Council
Thursday 2/19	"Mike Super." Magician, Dining Room A. 8:00pm.
Friday 2/20	Dance Performance in Snack Bar. Sponsored with U & Me.
Sunday 2/22	"Jasiri" Urban Poetry & Music. Dining Room A. 8:00pm

Going Once, Going Twice ... Sold!

Dream Date Auction at the Snack Bar

On Tuesday, February 10, the Resident's Hall Association (RHA) of Western New England College will host its annual Dream Date Auction to raise money for battered women and children.

The event will be held in the Snack Bar at 7:30pm.

The Master of Ceremonies of the event will be Dean Zem.

Anyone who wishes to participate in the event should sign up on or before February 10 in the Campus Center mall area.

All participants will receive a prize. Anyone bidding over 30 dollars who "wins" the person on whom they are bidding will receive free passes to Blockbuster Videos.

Special prizes will be awarded to those who bring in the highest bid.

The first place winner will receive a limousine ride to dinner and movie passes. The second place winner will receive dinner and movie passes, and the third place winner will receive only movie passes.

RHA is looking to receive all cash and check payments on the night of the event.

Last year's Dream Date Auction raised over 950 dollars. RHA hopes to make break that record this year.

All proceeds will benefit the YWCA ARCHS Shelter for battered women and their children. ❑

Fall Flashback: Pizza, Anyone?

by Christopher Service

Back in the year that was, on Sunday, November 9th, there was a pizza eating contest in the snack bar of the campus center.

The event was the brainchild of Plymouth R.A. Jennifer Cunningham and her resident and eventual co-winner Joe DiMambro.

In nine minutes and one second, DiMambro and Tom Marino destroyed a box of Dominoes' famous dominator.

This won them a $50 gift certificate to Dominoes pizza store.

The competition saw nine two-member teams competing against each other to see which two mortals could eat a dominator the fastest.

The rules were simple: each team was to eat everything -- all thirty slices of the two-feet long cheese pizza.

Mike Albano and Mike Wetherbee, Joe DiMambro and Tom Marino, Tom Webster and Jason Johnson, Brian Duffy and Ray Baldwin, Steve Conuel and Jim Molloy, David Kubera and David Chess, Christopher Service and Matthew Musumeci, Pete Driscoll and Sean Quealy, and Christopher Laramee and Anthony Ferris participated.

It was a sweet and simple deal. J.R., the manager of the neighborhood Dominoes pizza store located on Boston Rd., donated 12 boxes of their now famous dominator pizza.

A few residents of Plymouth complex donated their intestinal fortitude and gusto, and someone said to start eating.

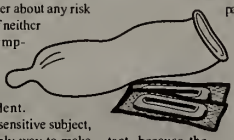
The event brought a rousing culmination to the series of events which comprised R.H.A.'s Plymouth weekend. ❑

February 14: Valentine's Day or National Condom Day?

"Love Me Safely" is the theme of National Condom Day on Valentine's Day, February 14.

According to the American Social Health Association, Valentine's Day is the perfect day to emphasize that loving someone means protecting the sexual health of both partners.

"Because STDs are so often symptomless, sex partners must talk to one another about any risk for STDs, even if neither person has symptoms," said Linda Alexander, ASHA president. "We know it's a sensitive subject, but this is the only way to make sure that you both stay healthy."



If either partner has had unprotected sex at any time, ASHA recommends that both be tested for STDs in a physician's office or clinic. The partners should also use condoms correctly every time they have sex to help protect against transmitting an infection.

Alexander emphasized that abstaining from sex is the only completely safe choice. "For those who are having sex, unless both partners are 100 percent certain that they are free of infection, condoms are essential," she said.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, five of the 10 most frequently reported infectious diseases in the U.S. — chlamydia, gonorrhea, AIDS, syphilis and hepatitis B — are STDs. It is estimated that there are 12 million new STD cases in the U.S. annually, with two-thirds occurring in people under 25 and one-fourth in teenagers.

The CDC recommends condom use for STD protection based on studies conducted among couples in which one partner was infected with HIV/AIDS. By using latex condoms consistently and correctly, 98-100 percent of the couples avoid transmitting HIV to the uninfected partner.

Condoms are also considered to be highly effective in protecting against chlamydia, gonorrhea, syphilis and other STDs that are passed via body fluids. Condoms are less reliable in preventing transmission of genital herpes and genital human papillomavirus (HPV), STDs that are transmitted by skin-to-skin contact, because the site of infection may lie outside the condom. However, people with herpes or HPV should use condoms to protect against other STDs.

Among types of condoms, the male latex condom is considered the most effective in preventing STDs. The female condom, which is made of plastic, is also considered effective for STD prevention. A male plastic condom is available, although its effectiveness against STDs is still being tested.

Natural membrane condoms are not recommended for STD prevention.

Latex condoms should be used with a water based lubricant, since oil-based lubricants weaken the condom. Plastic condoms can be used with either kind of lubricant.

Free, confidential information about STDs and condom use is available through hotlines operated by ASHA: the CDC National AIDS Hotline, (800) 342-2437 (Spanish service, (800) 344-7432; TTY for the deaf service, (800) 243-7889); the CDC National STD Hotline, (800) 227-8922; and the National Herpes Hotline, (919) 361-8488. ❑

Staff Writers Wanted

The Westerner is currently seeking staff writers. Positions are available for each section. If you like to write, and would like to see your work in print, this is an excellent place to begin. Regular contributions to sports, news, and arts & entertainment are needed.

As a staff writer, you would have the opportunity to generate your own stories, reviews, or editorials.

Or, if you prefer, stories can be assigned by the section editor for whom you wish to write.

If you are interested, or have any questions, call *The Westerner* office at extension 1580.

Keeping Students at Western New England College

Retention Task Force Submits Report

by Wayne Barr

On January 28, at 12:00pm, one of two open meetings was held in Sleith 100 to discuss the 1996-1997 Report of the Retention Task Force. Following the remarks of Dr. Caprio, president of Western New England College, and Dean Pollock, chair of the Retention Task Force, the floor was open to questions from faculty and administration members in the audience.

The report the committee distributed offers a variety of initiatives to improve the problem of student attrition. Caprio told those in attendance that the solution to student drop-off "cannot involve quick-fix methods" but must consist of a "comprehensive, long-term plan, not merely to ensure that students graduate, but that they have an enriching educational experience."

According to Caprio and the Report of the Retention Task Force, the beginnings of a solution are inherent in the issue of identity.

"We must know ourselves, we must know our strengths and we must know our weaknesses," he said.

The Report of the Retention Task Force concurs, and through a Noel Levitz study and a two-tiered student poll conducted by the task force, it attempts to identify students at WNEC. According to the Noel Levitz report, students leave WNEC for "primarily personal or financial" reasons, and secondarily for "the institution's not having the appropriate major."

A task force sub-committee cited financial concerns, poorly defined student goals, lack of student assistance, misunderstood expectations, and lack of college tradition as contributing factors of student attrition.

"We are not yet open to seeing the best in students," Caprio said. "We have to convey a sense that we value our students."

Following Caprio's remarks, Pollock told the audience that "thirty percent of freshman did not return for this fall ... this is slightly above the national average for comparable institutions."

After Pollock introduced the retention committee members, faculty and administration asked questions and made statements to the committee.

Questions were raised about the clarity of the retention committee's recommendation to "strengthen academic support services," particularly through what the report called "a pilot program of supplemental instruction ... targeting a limited number of high risk courses." One professor asked how such supplemental instruction would be different from the sort offered in existing LA 100 and 150 courses.

Dr. Rex Stevens, vice president of academic affairs, echoed these sentiments when he told the committee that students already have available to them peer advisors, resident advisors, LA 100 teachers, tutors and faculty advisors.

"In some cases we do too many things for the students," he said, "and in other cases the students fall through."

He suggested the need to "simplify."

According to Dean Zern, the new supplemental instruction would "not be content-based, but processed-based." Although faculty concerns over the need for instruction to be "departmentally linked" were expressed, Zern emphasized that the additional supplemental instruction was "not meant to replace" existing supplemental instruction.

If all goes as planned, a mission statement will be developed by the summer to more clearly plan to follow through with the Retention Task Force's recommendations. ❑

The Westerner's Roving Reporters as Ask Students: "What are you doing for Valentine's Day?"

Theresa DeMarco (Left):
Going on a romantic getaway, and having dinner with my boyfriend.
Ryan Courtemanche (Middle):
My special evening is in the planning process. Wish me luck!
Heather Croughwell (Right):
My boyfriend, Phil, and I are going to dinner at Spaghetti Freddy's.

Linda Dutchess & Mark Lupa:
We're going Northampton, having dinner, doing a little shopping and ending the night at a coffee shop.

Josh Pfeil (hiding behind his mail) and Desiree Croteau (hiding behind Josh) reluctantly share their plans.

Desiree Croteau:
For me it's going to be a functional weekend. I'm going away with my friend Emily. We'll be visiting Washington D.C, some of the monuments there, and then checking out graduate schools.
Josh Pfeil:
[Well, unfortuantely, Josh had no comment.]

Collin James (Left):
All I can say is that only God knows.
Jason Neal (Middle):
I'll be out with my special someone. I can't say her name, she knows who she is.
Lennise Norman (Top):
Party with the girls. It's going to be girls night out.
Giovanni Negron (Right):
I'm going out with my girl: Marsha "The Sheriff."

James McDonough (Left):
I have dinner plans.
Lester Johnson (Right):
Going out to dinner and then going to get me some loving.

Steven Woodcock (Left):
I'm taking my girlfriend to a nice restaurant.
Winnie the Pooh (Center):
I will be making some lucky Valentine happy.
Brian Turner (Right):
I'm probably going out to dinner.

Kristin Guerrette:
I'm going home just to get away...

Editorials & Opinions

February 6, 1998

Recycling on Campus

Looking at the calendar, I notice that we are only two years away from stepping into the 21st century. But Western New England College feels like it's still stuck in the Stone Age. Why? Basically WNEC lacks adaquate recycling facilities in a day and age where it should be second nature. It is almost offensive that a college/organization lacks something that is so important and welcome in our community. One wonders if WNEC has the word "recycling" in its vocabulary. We are headed into a future in which our environment and its resources are at risk. What are we waiting for? Is this how a college in the year of 1998 should act?

It is hypocritical for WNEC to be so keen on its appearance and looks when in reality it is missing such recycling basics as recycling paper and aluminum cans.

The problem I have found is communication. How many of us know that there *are* recycling bins in Herman, Emerson, Sleith, Churchill, and the library? You know — those ugly, huge, gray bins. But for those who do know, it can be a hassle when you live in the dorms and have to walk across campus to recycle paper. A few students and faculty do this, but the majority of WNEC is lazy — it's asking too much to save their paper and walk across campus to recycle it. The fact uf the matter is that recycling bins should be readily available for students in their housing facilities, classrooms, major gathering areas, and laundry rooms.

Most disturbing is what goes on in the Campus Center, especially in the mailbox area. I don't understand why there is not any paper recycling available in an area where students continually throw away their mail and paper. Just recently there was a mass mailing from ROTC, and as I held my letter with the anger of another wasted mass mailing, I looked into the trasb bin to find a complete overflow of wasted paper! I do not blame ROTC, for they are not the only ones who mass-mail, but it is frustrating and disturbing to know that nearly every single student at WNEC who had just received this letter threw it right into a garbage bin which in a few days will be trucked off to the landfill.

Last year, WNEC's Biology Club was able to get a recycling bin in the Campus Center for the students to use regularly. But it mysteriously disappeared after a few weeks. The Biology Club is still in confusion over the fact that facilities management removed the bin. Was there a major problem? I find it offensive for the students who worked so hard to get this bin to find it taken away without an explanation. The problem wasn't lack of use, for many students began use the bin once they knew it was available.

I encourage any others students who feel this way to help this campus get the recycling it needs. Voice your opinion like I have—WNEC can be stubborn when it comes to problems like this. One student's opinion may mean nothing, so I encourage you to help me make WNEC a better place for our environment and our community as a whole. It's about time WNEC got up and saw the future, before it's too late. ❑

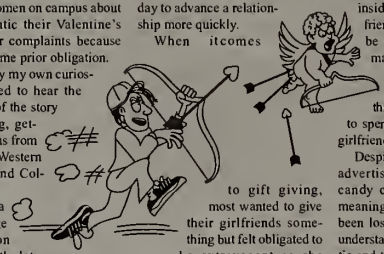
NataliePisarcik

To My Valentine, A Hollow Day?

It creeps up on us every year: the inevitable day when we find ourselves going to extremes to express our true feelings to that special someone or receiving an unwelcome reminder that we will be spending another day alone.

We either hear excited stories from the women on campus about how romantic their Valentine's Day was or complaints because "he" had some prior obligation.

To satisfy my own curiosity, I wanted to hear the other side of the story — meaning, getting opinions from the men of Western New England College.



Polling a broad range of men on campus both dating and single, I attempted to get a mix of answers.

About a third expressed hostile responses. Some called it a money holiday and one "a hoax by Hallmark." The consensus was that it was overdone.

Valentine's Day is a time for expressing emotions, but let's not limit the focus of the holiday entirely to girlfriends. "Its a way to celebrate friendships," one said. Others use the opportunity to send cards to their mothers.

A few guys brought up the point that if they really care about someone, it should be expressed every day. However, it is also a good day to advance a relationship more quickly.

When it comes to gift giving, most wanted to give their girlfriends something but felt obligated to be extravagant so she would not be disappointed or upset.

A number are taking the simplistic approach, making their girlfriends dinner or taking them to a movie. The preference is to give something of themselves, as opposed to materialistic gifts.

One question that piqued my curiosity was what men would like to get for Valentine's Day. What I received for answers was basically the same. They don't want anything physical or material. All they want is a gift from the heart.

I heard from several people that they would be happy to get a card with something personal written inside. Those who had girlfriends off-campus would just be happy to see them and maybe get a kiss.

Even with the holiday on a Saturday this year, those who are able to spend the evening with their girlfriends will intend to do so.

Despite all the promotion and advertising from the card and candy companies, the sincere meaning of the holiday has not been lost with these men. They understand what it is to be romantic and that giving of themselves is more important than the amount of money spent on presents.

Thanks again to everyone who aided me with the polling. Please don't let the propaganda dissuade you from celebrating this holiday in any way you deem fit. Just keep on doing what you've been doing.

Jennifer O'Brien

What the Government is Missing in Ted Kaczynski

For years the Federal Government has been dealing with a person it knew only as "the Unabomber," a monster who targeted technological advancement and killed ruthlessly when the world he knew was threatened. It was a safe bet, and when the 35,000-word manifesto appeared in the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*, people knew only that this monster had to be stopped, whoever it may be.

When the FBI tracked down and arrested Theodore Kaczynski, it glorified itself as having found a criminal that had "eluded" them for almost 30 years. In fact, Kaczynski had been living in the same cabin in the Montana woods that whole time; nobody bothered checking. As more clues were found that linked Kaczynski to the crimes attributed to the faceless entity called the Unabomber, federal prosecutors got death-penalty-happy, promising retribution for the bombings despite Kaczynski's brother David's pleas for mercy.

Something began to happen in the California trial, though. No longer just a pencil sketch and a long essay with a history of violence, Kaczynski had a face. He also had a name. Ted. Like Ted Williams, the baseball hall-of-famer, or Ted Kennedy, the U.S. Senator. He was a person. Somehow, he was a person capable of building bombs that exploded when advocates of technology opened their mail. He was cruel enough to do it, but also smart enough to do it.

At first, the government joined Ted in fighting the fact that he was crazy. They wouldn't even take a plea bargain — Ted lives, but spends the rest of his life in jail. Psychiatrists from both sides found something a lot of people suspected: Kaczynski was a paranoid schizophrenic. How could sane people look at the crimes attributed to Kaczynski and not wonder why he committed them, if in fact he did? How could any sane person send bombs in the mail tu people? If Kaczynski knew what he was doing and knew the consequences, does it make him more insane to be willing to accept those consequences?

Yes, Kaczynski was crazy. The psychiatrists showed it. Kaczynski says he committed those crimes. There is no reason not to believe him. He will not most likely spend the rest of his life bouncing between a prison cell and a psychiatric ward. There is, however, something that has been overlooked. Kaczynski's IQ has been estimated in the high 160s. He graduated from Harvard at a young age. Whether or not anyone admits it, including himself, he is brilliant. Intelligence can be sheltered or held back, but it does not just disappear. Why not teach him to use the technology he hated? Under close surveillance, so the government knows he's not just using it to do things it does not want him doing. Kaczynski could learn how to run and utilize a computer in a week, easily. He may resist at first, but with certain little rewards, he could be a great help to further technology.

Kaczynski lived in the woods. He was in good company. Thoreau loved the woods. So did Frost and Longfellow. Via the internet, anything Kaczynski wanted to read or entertain himself with is easily available. The government could allow him all the education he wanted and all the leisure reading he could do in exchange for helping out their interests.

Kaczynski would, of course, have a choice. It is impossible to force someone to think. Jail and psychiatric wards are always an option. But Kaczynski could still be a great help to this country, and to technology in general, if he so chooses. Hopefully, someone in the right position will understand that, and science could be several steps further ahead in the next few years than it would be without a brilliant mind. ❑

Josh Shear

Congratulations Dean's List Students

191 49 Sollentun
Madeleine Sandstrom

Glasgow Scotland
Laura Wiseman

S Horz Ap Lei Ch
King San Pang

Morris AL
Keith E. Ritchie

Kimitsuchiba Japan
Sachiko Motoyoshi
t
Cambria CA
Kevin M. Osborne

Avon CT
Christopher J. Goff

Branford CT
Gary B. Bliven
Denise A. Flanigan

Bridgeport CT
Jennifer A. Casceillo

Bridgewater CT
Rachel C. Mikolayczik

Bristol CT
Michael J. Bakaysa
Marc J. Bianchi
Michael J. Fries
Christopher R.
Levesque
Brian A. Yanke

Brooklyn CT
Kristin E. Knight

Cheshire CT
Tara E. Bishop

Danbury CT
David T. Lipson
Tamara A. Morin

Durham CT
Tracy L. Andersen

E Haddam CT
Alyson M. Duby

E Hampton CT
Ryan T. Jump

E Hartland CT
Christopher A. Dalene

E Haven CT
Tara L. Mingione
Amy L. Pemberton

Easton CT
Ashlee A. Albrecht

Enfield CT
Christina A. Abronze
Scott D. Bryson
Eric P. Froment
Beth A. Hurlburt
Kenneth W. Labak
Christopher A. Miller
Jessica L. Palumbo
Christine A. Phillips
Gina M. Rinaldi
Theresa I. Stacey
Christina M. Turgeon
Tanya L. Vabalas

Fairfield CT
Sean S. Mignone

Gales Ferry CT
Brian J. Mandeville
Michael R. Rhorer

Glastonbury CT
Timothy P. St. James

Griswold CT
Shaun B. Keane

Hamden CT
Tricia A. Jermine
Joseph A. Weber

Killingworth CT
Kristen G. Drapala

Knewington CT
Carrie A. Tordonato

Madison CT
Emily M. Neale

Manchester CT
Emily A. Schauster
Kimberly A. Windish

Meriden CT
Amy I. Karash
Colleen A. Mahoney

Middlebury CT
Michael P. Roach
Geoffrey W. Stowell

Middlefield CT
Carrie L. Cammarota

Milford CT
Caryn E. Brennan

Monroe CT
Frank Lieto

N Branford CT
James R. Abel

N Granby CT
Jean M. Keating

New Britain CT
Regina M. Fox

New Milford CT
Donald P. Fiddner

Newington CT
Jennifer L. Sullivan

North Haven CT
Andrea C. Hachey

Oakville CT
Lisa A. D'Addona

Old Lyme CT
William J. Carlson

Plainfield CT
Joseph M. Soper

Portland CT
Nicole M.
Roccapriore

S Windsor CT
Austin C. Heath

Sandy Hook CT
Brian J. Calderone

Somers CT
Marianne Kounta
Kevin J. Kulas
Christopher T.
Rushford
Todd S. Rushford

Southbury CT
Steven Lamontagne

Southington CT
Scott A. Wojenski

Stamford CT
Deborah E. Brennan

Stratford CT
Carey J. Vallillo

Suffield CT
Jamie-Lynn S.
Lessard
Tara J. Marinone

Tolland CT
Janette M. D'Connell

Vernon Rockville CT
Helena B. Calsetta

Vernon Rockvl CT
Shannon N. Greco

W Cornwall CT
Mandy L. Allen

W Hartford CT
Thomas L. Ferranti

W Haven CT
Emily L. Brower

Washington Depot CT
Kristin C. Haas

Waterbury CT
Kelly-Jean Gamelin
Leslee M. Larrivee
Melissa M. Marcella

Waterford CT
Ronan S. Lacey

Weatogue CT
Dana N. Hauge

Westport CT
Elizabeth A. Dehler

Windsor CT
Joshua S. Devin
Thea A. Martin
Christopher J.
Spillane

Windsor Locks CT
Katherine A. Baron

Nicole M. Lombardi

Winsted CT
Robert M. Holmes
Andrew S. Maiolo
Craig M. Maiolo
Christie A. Scribner

Woodbridge CT
Marisa A. Rydzy

Maitland FL
Joel I. Folber

Lithonia GA
Amy M. Grindstaff

Naperville IL
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Becket MA
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Renee C. Kenny
Sarah A. Mitchell
Crystal M. Nepus
Sarah J. Nepus
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Brockton MA
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Keumurian

Carver MA
Katie Phelan

Charlemont MA
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Cherry Valley MA
David G. Bachand

Cheshire MA
Rebecca J. Bissaillon

Chicopee MA
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Kimberly M. Case
Vittorio S. Contabile
Angela L. Cudworth
Peter J. Czapienski
Melissa J. Dahlquist
Andrea L. Davis
Dara B. DeGray
Kimberly A. Dooley
Robert M. Klupa
Christine R. Letendre
Stanley J. Mazur
Thomas J. Mekal
Sandra J. Menard
Michelle L. Nadeau
Vu T. Phan
Beth M. Przybylowicz
Melissa S. Russell
Lynn A. Schneeweis
Gregory J. Slowik
Lisa M. Spear-Miele
Svetlana Starikova
Debra A. Taddey

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Dracut MA
Lee Ann M.
Araskiewicz

Dudley MA
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E Longmeadow MA
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Alan P. Coppolo
Thomas A. Exline
Christine L. Johnson
Brian P. Murphy
Kevin M. Murphy
Carey J. Parsons
Stephen P. Readout
Maria Romolo
Susan M. Villamaino

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Fastham MA
Daniel W. Deschamps
Easthampton MA
Sara L. Johnson
Kelly R. Saltis
Susan M. Zaraya

Feeding Hills MA
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Mark W. Brittain
Sarah J. Cote
Kristi L. Hermans
Carmine M. Keane
Sean C. Szczygiel
Innessa V. York
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Framingham MA
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Gardner MA
Jessica Baker-
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Ferrentino
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Kroopnick
Aimee F. Mallows
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Todd J. Pula
Bryan P. Schmutz

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Tina M. Hanson
Robert J. Hogan
Keith E. Hopkinson
Amber D. Janes
Anthony J. Kempesty
Joann L. Kokosa
Joel D. Page
Shannon L.
Thompson
Corey R. Tomlinson
Nathan D. Torreiti

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Melissa L. Gagne

Brett J. Martin

N Chelmsford MA
Amy S. Craig

N Easton MA
Suzanne M. Laverdiere

N Falmouth MA
Jason Kan

Nantucket MA
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North Brookfield MA
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Matthew R. Pragluski
Linda L. Roberto
Frederick J. Robinson
Suzanne M. Stanczak
Cleothus M. Steele
Tina M. Tadevich
Thao T. Truth
Christina L. Trolio
Andrew W. Wayner
Leon L. Woods
David V. Zawacki

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John L. Pantera

Sunderland MA
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Three Rivers MA
Heidi E. Drawec
Michael D. Meilleur
Carolyn J. Rogers
Paul E. Sasur

Tyngsboro MA
Kevin M. Reeves

W Springfield MA
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Oleg Ivanov
Heather P. Kenney
Monique E. Parker
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Dara L. Vigliano
Oksana Yurchenko

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Theresa F. Fay
Laurie A. Padykula

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Worcester MA
Phuc H. Vo
Tam H. Vo

Crofton MD
Courtney K.
O'Connell

Bangor ME
Kristy M. Bowden

Bath ME
Jennifer B.
Cunningham

Brunswick ME
Beau D. Highfill

Fryeburg ME
Ethan D. Lowry

Lewiston ME
Jason A. Fournier
Karen J. Veilleux

Lisbon ME
Kenneth J. Adams
Jessica L. Fournier

Lisbon Falls ME
Cinnamon K. Moran

Livermore Falls ME
Charity L. Davis

Madison ME
Michael T. Stratton

N Monmouth ME
Melanie B. Weed

Poland ME
Anne-Marie M. Gravel

West Buxton ME
Bryan E. Brunk

Allenstown NH
Melissa L. Bresse

Danville NH
Jeremy J. Murphy

Hill NH
Andrea D. Cousens

Hinsdale NH
Angela M. DeNutto

Merrimack NH
Jennifer A. Edinger

Nashua NH
Michael J. Brittan

Belvidere NJ
Jeffrey P. Hungarter

Brick NJ
Brian S. Weaver
Michelle A. Wemple

Chatham NJ
Jennifer L. Loock

E Brunswick NJ
Leubna Asad

E Hanover NJ
Suzanne Paglia

Englishtown NJ
Sharon M. Tortola

Fair Lawn NJ
Stacy Krueger

Hawthorne NJ
William J. Comerro

Hopatcong NJ
Steven R. Stanlick

Jersey City NJ
Tommasina Tango

Linwood NJ
Christopher T. Laird

Manalapan NJ
Timothy R. Stack

Mc afee NJ
Mathieu N. Petrattis

Old Bridge NJ
Caitlin H. Matkowsky

Rockaway NJ
Christopher T. Perry

Stanhope NJ
Maria N. Arrigo

Toms River NJ
Meghan Vernest

West Milford NJ
Matthew P. DeFranco

Woodbridge NJ
Michele Cinkewicz

Albany NY
Christa M. Murphy

Altamont NY
Meghan M. Brady

Averill Park NY
Kelly A. Lopez

Brooklyn NY
RuPeng O. Zhao

Burnt Hills NY
Desiree J. Croteau

Cadyville NY
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Kathleen M. Reed

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Clifton Park NY
Paul A. Quail

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Tara A. Kunath

Corinth NY
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Delanson NY
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Delmar NY
Joseph E. Capobianco

Dobbs Ferry NY
Geoffrey N. Levine

E Islip NY
Robert E. Stadelman

E Meredith NY
Matthew G. Jill

East Elmhurst NY
Theodosios Kountouris

East Greenbush NY
Laurie A. Gordon

Endicott NY
Jonathan M. Kurkoski

Ganseevoort NY
Brandy L. Wester

Hastings On Huds NY
Luis R. Santamaria

See CONGRATS, page 11

Arts & Entertainment

February 6, 1998

Erykah Badu, Live

by Wesley Bresette
Staff Writer

At one point during Erykah Badu's concert, she stops the music to talk to the audience. In the course of this conversation Badu describes what a cipher is and the importance it has in the song, "On and On". Dialogue like that is what makes a concert all that more interesting than a studio-produced album.

Janis Joplin popularized this form in her long rants during many of her songs. Other artists, such as Indigo Girls and Ani Difranco, have kept the connection with the audience by talking to them. I am proud to say that Erykah Badu has also done a good job of connecting with her audience, as you can judge my the audience reaction throughout the album.

This is the second album to be released by Badu; her first album, "Baduizm," produced a string of hits, many of which are on the live album. In fact, "Live" consists mostly of live versions of songs from "Baduizm." That's what I like about his live album: instead of hearing studio-produced songs, the listener can feel the vibe of a live show as if they were there.

I particularly like "On and On" — it has a good jazz groove which goes well with Badu's smooth-as-silk voice. I also like the "Rimshot" intro, with its nod to Miles Davis's "Kind of Blue" album. "Apple Tree" has the free-form style of jazz with the beat of "On and On", but it is a little looser.

The one song I consider a treat is "Next Lifetime," which goes on for over 12 minutes. The back-up musicians do a good job of keeping up with Badu.

The only problem I had with this album was Badu's attempt at R&B. Songs like "Boogie Nights/ All Night" lack the intensity of her other songs. I also thought the song "Tyrone" dragged on and sounded like any other R&B song on the market. It is my opinion that Badu is a better jazz singer than R&B singer — she seems to be able to flow better with the music when the beat is jazzy.

Badu is a 25-year-old artist who has accomplished a lot in her debut album, but it is her live album that shows her real talent. Like fellow jazz and blues singers (Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald, for example), Badu is able to incorporate her personality into her music, thus enriching the value of the music. Erykah Badu's "Live" is a good album to buy if you like Jazz and Blues and the energy of a live show. ❑

There is More Than Just "Sex and Candy" at the Ironhorse

by Tom Rund & George Semanie, Jr.

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. — The Ironhorse of Northampton presented a musical act that was not expected to be an over-the-top riveting and exciting show. "Marcy Playground" was being paid to sing their one known song, just like it's played on the radio.

But on January 20, this band made all who watched feel as if this was their first and last show. You would have thought, by looking around, that the Ironhorse didn't have much to offer. But once you heard the small, but sweet sound system you knew you were in a different type of small club. Its few seats made you feel as if you were getting ready to relax with a cup of coffee, but instead you recieved a dose of hard core rock.

Thinking back on this show reminds me of greatness, of the same effort I'd seen at my home town in Hartford, Conn., when Eddie Vedder of "Pearl Jam" rose up to sing his almighty encore. Marcy Playground played their best effort and their sound and cheers confirmed their tracks.

Marcy Playground performed as if it was a night on the town with the guys. An artist couldn't be more comfortable standing over such an interested crowd. And they actually pulled it off. Walking into this old club made me question if I was going to get my seven dollars worth. Marcy Playground is a good band, and they were worth every cent. Lincoln, the opening band, made it evident that any band can sound good at the right place. This was the best sounding coffee house I've been to, and I would recommend it to you all.

As for the music itself: Rolling Stone has called Marcy Playground a mix of "Nirvana" and "Dave Matthew's Band." The band is made up of Dylan Keefe on bass, Dan Reiser on drums, and John Wozniak on the guitar riffs and vocals. I would hope you would not be able to see a resemblance between "Nirvana" and "Marcy Playground," not with a single like "Sex and Candy."

The disc starts out with a groove on "Poppies." This track concerns itself with a nice rhythm and great guitar solos. Like "Poppies", most of this CD is catchy and the songs and lyrics stick in your head. Unlike those songs you don't want in your head you can't help but enjoy what you are listening to. "Saint Joe on the School Bus" also provides us with a catchy entourage of Hard Core with a prolific low chord before ripping into a chorus keeping the same low chord with a great bass back up. On a touching side, every album has a song that is of a serious matter. This is true with "One More Suicide." During the show at the Ironhorse it was mentioned that this particular song was written for Dylan Keefe's father. The song can't help you to think about life and being able to grasp onto life and not let go.

During the show I was looking forward to hearing "Sex and Candy" but I was much more impressed with the other tracks I heard. Some of the best were "Saint Joe," "Poppies," "Gone Crazy," "The Shadows of Seattle," and "The Vampires of New York."

If you get the chance to see these guys next time around I would highly recommend it. While you wait, pick up their CD. It's self titled and worth the money. ❑

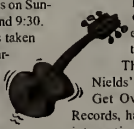
The Nields Play in Northampton

Concert at the Ironhorse, February 15

by Josh Sheer

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. — Local favorites the Neilds will once again grace the stage of the Ironhorse for two shows on Sunday, February 15 at 7 and 9:30.

The pop quintet has taken two months off from touring to record some of the new songs they wrote during their fall tour last year, and are excited to be on the road again.



The Neilds, whose members are Katryna and Nerrissa Nields, Nerrissa's husband David Neilds, and Dave Hower and Dave Chalfant, broke briefly from their recording to play two sets at the Academy of Music for Northampton's 1998 First Night celebration.

Some people waited in line twice to see them, and some people were shut out of both sets due to the enormous response to the concert.

The re-release of the Nields' latest album, "Gotta Get Over Greta," on EMI Records, has launched the band into national prominence as a great up-and-coming act.

The band usually sells out their shows at the Iron Horse, so get your tickets early. Tickets are available at the Northampton Box Office, or by calling (413) 586-8686. ❑

A One Song Review

Therapy or Music?

by Nicole Pizutti

Coming off of Jon B's album, "Cool Relax," is a relaxing and original song called "They Don't Know." Starting with an original beat, you may feel that you are on a tropical island waiting for your drink to be poured, and that you might actually enjoy this song.

It is not until Jon B attempts to sing this silly song do you realize that you are far from the tropics and quite far from a tune. His voice is high and quite weak. There is no power behind him or these lyrics: "you're my angel / don't listen to what people say about you / they don't know about you." I was not sure if I was listening to a love song or a motivational speaker.

I suggest that Jon B quit the music industry and become a therapist. His "ohhhhhing" and "ahhhhing" was quite annoying and "Cool Relax" is a completely wrong title for an album that made my skin crawl. ❑

Classic Blues Videos

Viewing, Discussion in Celebration of Black History Month

AMHERST — On Feb. 26, between the hours of 7 and 9pm, the University of Massachusetts will host an evening of Classic Blues Videos with a discussion led by Steve Tracy, assistant professor of Afro-American Studies at Umass in celebration of Black History Month.

Steve Tracy will bring his love of the Blues and his knowledge of blues history to this video showing/discussion, presenting excerpts from several Classic Blues Videos. Some of them include "St. Louis Blues" featuring Bessie Smith (1929), "Death Letter Blues" featuring Son House (1965), and others.

Steve C. Tracy received his Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati in 1985, and is currently an assistant professor of Afro-American Studies at Umass. He is the recipient of many awards including the "Blue Ball" Lifetime Achievement Award in 1996, and has been featured in numerous articles dealing with literature and folklore published in scholarly journals and music magazines.

Tracy is himself a singer, harmonica player, and composer who has recorded with the likes of Albert Washington, Big Joe Duskin, Pigmeat Jarrett, and the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra.

This exhibit is free and open to the public. The Augusta Savage Gallery is located in New Africa House in the Central residential area near the University Health Services at Umass in Amherst. The Gallery hours are Mon. & Tues. 1-7; Wed - Fri. 1-5. ❑

Jazz Artist to Perform in Amherst

Jay Hoggard Plays at Augusta Savage Gallery, February 19

UMASS — Jay Hoggard is among the top creative artists of contemporary music. His recordings and performances around the world have led some to believe that he is the preeminent vibraphonist of his generation, as well as a gifted and innovative composer. He had released more than a dozen albums ranging from classic jazz to original groundbreaking works.

Born September 28, 1954 in Washington, DC, Hoggard was raised in Mt. Vernon, New York in a religious family. His father, J. Clinton Hoggard, is a retired bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion (AME Zion) Church. His late mother, Eva, also devoted much of her life to the Church.

Hoggard's family was very interested in their roots and cultural heritage, periodically entertaining guests from Ghana and Nigeria.

As a child, Hoggard took piano lessons from his mother and studied alto saxophone in elementary school. A major influence of is thinking occurred at the age of 13 while attending Duke Ellington's Second Sacred Concert at his church in Harlem.

"During the break, my father took me back to meet Ellington," said Hoggard. "He said, 'Duke, I want you to meet my son.' I remember looking up at him and he seemed to be nine feet tall. I decided soon after that I wanted to play music."

Hoggard is a graduate of the renown World Music program at Wesleyan University in Connecticut. At Wesleyan, Hoggard studied with Clifford Thornton and began playing professionally almost as soon as he arrived; he performed at Carnegie Hall and toured Europe with Thornton while he was still a freshman.

In his junior year he traveled to Tanzania on a Wesleyan grant to study East African xylophone music. This trip greatly influenced his perspective as a composer and performer.

After graduation, Hoggard returned to New York City where he was soon proclaimed "the most dazzling new vibraphonist in jazz."

Hoggard is quite taken with the history of the vibraphone, from its origins in tuned rocks found 4,000 to 5,000 years ago in Cambodia, to the wooden African marimba and its metallic predecessors in Indonesian gamelan.

"What I love about it is that there is something almost mystical about the vibes and these instruments," he said. "The people who played them are part of an oral tradition. I consider myself part of a very significant musical tradition. The roots of the instrument go back to African culture."

Hoggard has performed in special collaborations with vibraphone masters Lionel Hampton, Milt Jackson, Tito Puente and Bobby Hutcherson. He has recorded and performed with numerous creative artists, including the Dizzy Gillespie Big band. He has worked with singers and poets; performed with theater, dance percussion, gospel and orchestral ensembles; and recorded on soundtracks, jingles and over 40 albums.

He has also been commissioned as a composer for various ensembles.

On Thursday, February 19, at 7pm, Hoggard will perform at the Augusta Savage gallery, located near the University Health Services at UMass. ❑

Let the Pageantry Begin:

A Message from the Senior Class President

Dear Seniors,

Welcome back! I am writing to tell you about an upcoming event for the semester. But first, let me apologize for all the date changes on the magnets. We ordered them in the month of November and since then there have been some changes. These changes were unpredictable and necessary.

Once again we apologize for the mix up and hope you understand.

The next part of this letter is to just give you some background on one of our upcoming events. To start, the '98 Days Party: this event is done to get the Senior Class together for fun, 98 days before graduation. It is a night when we can dance, talk, reminisce and just be together. I hope you all can attend. It will start at 7pm on Saturday, Feb. 7 and go until 11pm. Free food will be served, and drinks to those with proper student identification. So, if you are a senior and are looking forward to a great night, see you on the 7th of Feb. Remember this event is open to commuters as well as residents!

> ***Please make note of the new dates for the following events:***
>
> ***'98 Days Party, February 7***
> ***Mr. and Ms. WNEC, March 26***
> ***Senior Formal, April 25***

Now the rest of the events are listed on the magnets you received. Keep a look out for more information as the dates draw near!

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the individuals who have personally come to us and asked questions, offered feedback, and to those who are getting more involved. It is our Senior year and we want your input to make it the best year ever! So keep up the questions and feedback! There is a lot more in store for all of us this semester and we want you to be ready!

Celia Viegas

Watercolors and Sculptures Featured In Exhibition

Works on Display in Campus Center Art Gallery

Wood and alabaster sculptures and scenic and still-life watercolors are being featured at the third exhibition of the season at the Western New England College Art Gallery.

The sculptures of Donald Blanton of Springfield and the watercolors of Anne Harhay of West Springield were highlighted at an exhibit opening on Sunday, February 1. An free afternoon reception open to the public in the Campus Center introduced the exhibit, which will be on display through February 28.

Blanton is a freelance artist and sculptor who studies at the Marrick School of Art and Drama in Los Angeles, CA. His artwork is expressed in a variety of medium including painting, sculpting and creating "WearAble Art," his own distinctive jewelry. His work has been widely exhibited in western New England.

Harhay received her M.A.T. from the Rhode Island School of Design. A former elementary art instructor, she has served as the president of the Springfield Art League. Her work has been exhibited in Massachusetts, Vermont, and Connecticut. ❑

Valentine Movie Quotes

~ I'm scared of everything. I'm scared of what I saw. I'm scared of what I did, of who I am...and...most of all, I'm scared of walking out of this room and never feeling the rest of my whole life the way I feel when I am with you. Dance with me?
—Dirty Dancing

~ Han. I love you.
- I know. ***—Empire Strikes Back***

- Listen Vanessa, whatever happens, I want you to know that I feel really bad about that Italian bird. What I am trying to say is that if you want me to be a one woman man, well that's just groovy baby.
~ Behave. ***—Austin Powers***

- I was wondering why I'm so lucky, why I should find you waiting for me to come along.
~ Why there is no man in my life?
- Uh huh.
~ That's easy...he's dead.
(kiss) ***—Casablonco***

~ You had me at hello.
(cry, boo hoo) ***—Jerry Maguire***

- You have to promise me Rose, don't ever let go. Don't ever let go.
—Titanic

- When you love someone, you gotta trust them. There is no other way. You've got to give them the key to everything that's yours, otherwise, what's the point? And for a while I believed that was the kind of love I had...
(car explosion) ***—Casino***

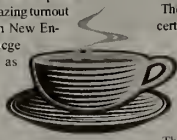
Coffee Anyone?

The Review Sponsors its Second Open-Mic Poetry Reading

by Jennifer Hastings

On February 24 *The Review of Art and Literature* will hold its second open mic coffee house of this year in the People's Place snack bar from 8 to 11pm. *The Review* will offer refreshments to students who attend the coffee house.

The Review held an open mic coffee house in the past and had an amazing turnout of Western New England College students as well as students from other area colleges. Students read their own poetry, short fiction, essays; they sing, play musical instruments, and exhibit their unique talents.



"There aren't many opportunities like this on campus," said Anne-Marie Gravel, editor of The Review. "Students get to showcase their creative ability in a friendly atmosphere of their peers."

Gravel hopes this semester's coffee house is as much of a success as last semester's event.

"We had a nice candle lit atmosphere," she said. "Everyone was very supportive of each other."

Students will also be able to submit to *The Review* before the final deadline, February 26.

The staff of *The Review of Art and Literature* is also running an "Art is Money" cover contest.

The winner will receive a $75 certificate, and his or her art will be placed on the cover of *The Review*. The second place winner will receive a $50 certificate, and third place winner will receive a $25 certificate.

The staff of *The Review* asks that all cover submissions be in color and original work, and that all submissions be placed in the Student Publications Office, Campus Center room #163. Submissions must include author, phone number, and box number/address.

If you have any questions you can call the editor of *The Review*, Anne-Marie, at 782-1581. ❑

Rental Recommendation:

Sprung

Directed by Rusty Cundieff and produced and co-written by Darin Scott.

Starring Rusty Cundieff, Tisha Campbell (*Martin, House Party,* and *Boomerang*) Joe Torry (*Tales from the Hood, Poetic Justice*) and Paula Jai Parker (*Get on the Bus, Friday*).

Love has "sprung" for Montel (Cundieff) and Brandy (Campbell) after getting ditched at a party by their two conniving best friends, Clyde (Torry) and Adina (Parker). An awkward beginning turns into a serious romance and after a few short months, Montel and Brandy announce plans to move in together with the possibility of marriage. Panicked at the prospect of losing their pals, Clyde and Adina decide things have gone too far and join forces to sabotage the relationship. The schemers devise outlandish plots to "unsprung" the lovesick couple, creating unexpected hysterical results in this contemporary tale of a roller coaster ride to love in the 90s. ❑

Find Love With the Opposite Sex From the Singles Resource Network

WALPOLE, Mass. — If you've been looking for love in all the wrong places, you may wish to consider a dating service. The Singles Resource Network (TSRN) has a guide that will put you on the right track.

Men and women who join TSRN in February will receive a free copy of TSRN founder Mitch Ribak's 20-page handbook, "The Opposite Sex."

In it, Ribak presents common sense answers to such widely misunderstood questions as, why men won't commit to relationships; why women don't like "nice guys"; how to settle down; the differences in women as they age; and how to get past the first date.

Ribak, who works with and counsels TSRN clients, said that "The Opposite Sex" was culled from client experiences on the singles dating scene.

"Through TSRN I have heard dozens of single men and women say they would love to meet an attractive member of the opposite sex but have no clue what turns a prospective partner on or off," Ribak said. "My guidebook, "The Opposite Sex," gives practical insights into what makes men and women tick, so every single person can successfully woo and win the partner they love."

For example, in the section, "Why men won't commit," Ribak explains how to know if your partner is in love or just "comfortable" with you.

"Men who are truly in love with someone will commit their whole life to the woman they love," the guidebook says. "... So, if you are involved with a man and he tells you he loves you but is not willing to alter his life for you, you have to ask yourself, 'does he really love me?' Now there are certain legitimate priorities in one's life that cannot be altered such as work and family obligations, but having to go out with his friends all the time is not one of them."

Ribak also offers advice about how to get women to respond to men. "The first and foremost way to get a woman to respond to you is to simply be yourself. Don't try all those stupid, moronic pick-up lines ... When approaching a woman, act natural and do not try to pick her up. Just smile and be happy. This is the biggest attraction a man can have when first meeting a woman."

It is natural to be dubious about dating services, of course. TSRN claims to have successfully combined the ease and convenience of the World Wide Web with the need for safety and security in singles dating. Members can preview prospective partners' backgrounds and photographs on their home computers by scrolling through the service's database.

Since the emphasis is on safety and security, every new client undergoes a criminal history screening and identification verification process prior to joining the Network.

Although TSRN never releases identifying information about a client without the client's prior consent, TSRN members can access extensive background information about prospective partners before the couple meets.

Dating services cost money, though, and TSRN is no exception. The annual membership cost is $250.

In order to build its client base, TSRN has allied itself with corporate affiliates like Digital City Boston, a subsidiary of America OnLine.

For more information and a free copy Ribak's guidebook, call (508) 668-7181 or visit their web site at http://www.tsrn.com. ❑

CONGRATS, continued from page

Hudson NY
Cheryl M. Friss

Hyde Park NY
Chad W Norton

Johnson City NY
James J Wojtowitz

Johnstown NY
Lucas M. Sumear

Kingston NY
Steven T Bourke
Sara J Boyle

Lake Katrine NY
Brenda S. Trodler

Latham NY
Nicole R. Laurin

Levittown NY
Melissa A. Rensing

Malden On Hudson NY
Kristos A Moshos

Manhus NY
Wendy R Schultz

Mechanicville NY
Sarah A Miranda

Merrick NY
Andreas Kaneris

Millerton NY
Benjamin J. Brunese

Millwood NY
Leana Monteiro

Mohegan Lake NY
Thomas W Butkier

Mount Tremper NY
Michael E Tiso

New Paltz NY
Andrew J Talbott

New York NY
William G. Holt

Newburgh NY
Kevin C Fleenor

Pleasantville NY
Michael A. LaPorte

Ravena NY
Robert Nieves

Rochester NY
Megan M Farmer
Keith C McMahon

Saugerties NY
Chad G. Lavallee

Sauquoit NY
Paul T. Freitag
Jill K. Restle

Schaghticoke NY
Angela M. Shannon

Schenectady NY
Brett W Barr
Kurt D. Clark
Theresa J DeMarco
Rita M. Zurlo

Scotia NY
Jeanine A. Shull

Smithtown NY
Shawn LaRocco

Tillson NY
Samantha E. Stoutenburg

Troy NY
Jennifer K Bonafede
James F Mangan
Yu B Yeung

Ulster Park NY
Patrick E. Pons

Utica NY
Sommer A. Roefaro

Whitesboro NY
Jill M Bennett
Dino Cencetti

Wynantskill NY
Dana A Razzano

Cranston RI
Kerrie A Lesuer

E Greenwich RI
Dana A Parker

N Scituate RI
Daniel J Neri

N. Smithfield RI
Heather A McFarland

Portsmouth RI
Sarah G. Anderson

Providence RI
Domenic F. Napolitano

Westerly RI
Kevin M Batem
Jennifer L Gray
Erin J. Manno

Greer SC
Erin F Maffucci

Houston TX
Majed A Al Harthi
Mutieb S Al Orainy

Fairfax VA
Kelly L Wharton

Barre VT
Eric W Badeau
Jason A LaCroix
Jennifer L. Tait
Laura A Tait

Colchester VT
Michelle A. Broderick

Essex Junction VT
Michael R Perrault
Jessica L Steel

Hartford VT
Ryan M Courtemanche

Jericho VT
Christina L DeGraff

Morrisville VT
Kristine D Farnham

Proctorsville VT
Kristi M Flack

Richford VT
Gregory N Marcoux

Saint Albans VT
Heather E Andrews

Saint Johnsbury VT
Megan J Reynolds

Salisbury VT
Holly M Mosunek

SPRING 1998 AIR SCHEDULE

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Time	Saturday	Sunday
10am-12pm	Denis C Loud Rock					9am-11am	Tony V. R&B/Urban	
12pm-2pm	Matt, John & Matt Alternative		Nick & Tom R&B/Urban	Lisa W. Loud Rock	Nicole P. Loud Rock	11am-1pm	DeWayne T Jazz	Brian M Loud Rock
2pm-4pm	Heather M. Alternative	Heidi K. Urban	Ben B Loud Rock	Joe O Alternative	Brian & Wes Alternative	1pm-3pm	Mike C. Loud Rock	Kristian F Loud Rock
4pm-6pm	Carrie T Alternative	Paul F. Loud Rock	Michelle S. R&B/Urban	Meg D Alternative	Sue & Melinda R&B/Urban	3pm-5pm	Andrew C. Loud Rock	Jarrod T Loud Rock
6pm-8pm	Nick & Kate R&B/Urban	Josh B Loud Rock	Kyle & Sean Alternative	Brian N. Loud Rock	Pierre B. Loud Rock	5pm-7pm	Kurt, Eric & Jason R&B/Urban	Steve B. Alternative
8pm-10pm	Sarah, Natalie, Erica Alternative	Becky & Dyanne R&B/Urban	Tom R. Alternative	Matt & Ann R&B/Urban	LUPA Alternative	7pm-9pm	Giovanni & George R&B/Urban	Brandon R. Alternative
10pm-12am	Ken & Cully R&B/Urban	Shannon P Loud Rock	Harley A Loud Rock	Rob C Loud Rock	Tom & Allan Loud Rock	9pm-11pm	Andrew B R&B/Urban	Kristen D. Loud Rock

Catch Marilyn's first guest appearance on WNEK 105.1, Friday. February 13 @ 12:00 PM. Call in 782-1586.

Report Card

A+

Sports

February 6, 1998

Pats Flat for Another Season

A Look at the Game that Let New England Down

by David Weinberg

The New England Patriots season came down to the AFC divisional playoff game against the Pittsburgh Steelers. The two teams only faced each other once during the regular season. Now the stakes were much greater, for the loser of this game would be eliminated from the playoffs and have no opportunity of reaching the Super Bowl.

Pittsburgh took a 7-0 lead on their initial possession of the first quarter. On 2nd-and-10, Steelers quarterback Kordell Stewart appeared he was going to pass to one of his open receivers. To New England's surprise, Stewart ran the ball himself and was able to score a 40-yard touchdown, which was assisted by sparkling offensive blocks from left guard Will Wolford and tight end Mark Bruener.

"It was designed for me to run and it was on me to be a magician and make them think I was going to throw it," Stewart told the press.

The Patriots fought back with 6 points of their own, aided by two field goals by Adam Vinatieri in the second and fourth quarter. However, the touchdown by Kordell Stewart proved to be enough as the Pittsburgh Steelers eliminated the New England Patriots 7-6.

New England was threatening to take the lead with 1:44 remaining in the fourth quarter. However, Pittsburgh regained possession when Steelers defensive end Mike Vrabel stripped Patriots quarterback Drew Bledsoe of the football.

The Patriots got the ball back on their 4-yard line with 34 seconds remaining in the game. In utter desperation, Drew Bledsoe launched a Hail Mary pass on the final play of the game. Unfortunately for the New England Patriots, that was also the final play of their season, as Bledsoe's pass was intercepted by linebacker Levon Kirkland. ❑

New England Patriots Season Record

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
Aug. 31	Sand Diego Chargers	(W) 41-7
Sep. 07	indianapolis Colts	(W) 31-6
Sep. 14	New York Jets	(W) 27-24 (OT)
Sep. 21	Chichago Bears	(W) 31-3
Oct. 06	Denver Broncos	(L) 34-13
Oct. 12	Buffalo Bills	(W) 33-6
Oct. 19	New York Jets	(L) 24-19
Oct. 27	Green Bay Packers	(L) 28-10
Nov. 02	Minnesota Vikings	(L) 23-18
Nov. 09	Buffalo Bills	(W) 31-10
Nov. 16	Yampa Bay Buccaneers	(L) 27-7
Nov. 23	Miami Dolphins	(W) 27-24
Nov. 30	indianapolis Colts	(W) 20-17
Dec. 07	Jacksonville Jaguars	(W) 26-20
Dec. 13	Pittsburgh Steelers	(L) 24-21
Dec. 22	Miami Dolphins	(W) 14-12
Dec. 28	Miami Dolphins *[Wildcard Game]*	(W) 17-3
Jan. 30	Pittsburgh Steelers *[Divisional Playoffs]*	(L) 7-6

Total Season Record
11 Wins, 7 Losses

Denver Finds Holes in the "Cheese"

A Look at Super Bowl XXXII

by Ryan O'Connor
Sports Writer

Finally, a Super Bowl with two pretty even matched teams lived up to the expectations of a classic Super Bowl. The Denver Broncos and the Green Bay Packers batteled for sixty minutes, running the ball and airing it out whenever possible. But it was Denvers offense that outlasted the Packers. Denver overcame Brett Farve and the Super Bowl champions from last year, 31-24.

The Broncos finally proved to the world that they are champions and that John Elway can win the big game. And after fourteen years of NFC domination, the AFC finally broke the streak in Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego.

The game started as expected — a lot of offense by both high-scoring teams. Denvers Terrell Davis led the charge despite missing much of the second quarter with a migraine. Davis rushed for over 150 yards, scoring three touchdowns — including the 1-yard score with 1:45 left which provided the winning margin. The defense came out onto the field and did nothing less then shut Brett Farve down to end the game. John Mobley's interception clinched the victory while time ran out.

The game resembled a tennis match — the scoring went back and forth for both teams. Although Farve had back-to-back turnovers on two consecutive possesions, he was able to climb his way back with the team riding on him.

Green Bay tightened the gap late in the second quarter with a 17-play, 95-yard drive, capitalizing on a 6-yard TD pass to tight end Mark Chmura. And with a careless fumble early in the second half by Terrell Davis, the Packers tied the game 17-17.

The Broncos then drove the ball 92 yards to go ahead on another Davis run. Things were going the Broncos' way as they bucked all over the special teams of Green Bay, causing an Antonio Freeman fumble on the Packers 22 yard line. With the score 24-17 Broncos, the Packers and head coach Mike Holmgren had to make something happen if they wanted to maintain Super Bowl champion status. Defenseman Eugene Robinson came up big when Elway threw a pass over a blitzing line of Green Bay's Packers, and picked off the pass in the line of fire. Then it only took four plays for the blazing arm of Farve to even the score at 24.

With plenty of time in the fourth quarter, Denvers potent offense put up the final seven points with Davis's rushing touchdown. Elway and the Broncos were just too much for Green Bay as time and the season just wore down. Although both teams were evenly matched coming into the game, and the Broncos underdogs by 12 points, it was the running game that proved to be the crucial aspect of the game. Both team's total yards were close — Denver had 302, while Green Bay had a total 350 yards.

The peoples choice for MVP probably would have been for Denvers Quarterback John Elway, for winning his first Super Bowl, but both teams know who was the most valuable player when it came down to crunch time and possession of the ball. The Broncos running back Terrell Davis deserved to be the MVP rushing for 157 yards and scoring three touch downs, including the game winner of Super Bowl XXXII. ❑

Bowling Team Success

by Devid Weinberg
Sports Editor

On January 25, as a birthday gift to bowling coach Robert Burns, his men's and women's teams rolled to a series of victories. The "striking of the pins" took place at Pat Tarsio Lanes in Newburgh, NY in a tournament hosted by West Point.

Sophomore Jason Tuz, a general business major from Pauling, New York, lead the team with a high game of 254 and a 660 series.

The women, bowling in a doubles format, were led by freshman Amber Keumurian, of Cambridge, Mass. and sophomore Joanne Krivak of Carmel, New York, with 14-4 match points. Freshman Kim Hnyda of Brick, NJ and junior Jamie Barras, of Avon-By-The-Sea, NJ, followed with a 12-6 total.

Sophomore Leana Monteiro of Millwood, NY and sophomore Angela DeSantis of Ware, MA had a 10.5-7.5 record for the day.

Leana and Angela had the high duble scores for the day with a 961. High games included Kim Hnyda's 199 and Joanne Krivak's 198. ❑

Men's TRI-State College Bowling League Standings 1/26/98

WNEC Blue	165.5
WPI	137.5
WNEC Gold	127.0
USMA, West Point	90.5
Coast Gurad Aeademy	45.0
Bentley	33.5

Women's TRI-State College Bowling League Standings 1/26/98

Jamie Barras - Kim Hnyda, WNEC	50.5-21.5 points
Leana Monteiro - Angela DeSantis, WNEC	45-27 points
Amber Keumurian - Joanne Krivak, WNEC	39-33 points
Jo Laurln - Kim Mailhot, WPI	25-29 points
Heather McCusker - Katie Taylor, WPI	19-35 points
Rachel Houseman - Andrea Sereny, WPI	8-46 points

Women's Basketball Schedule

Sat., Feb. 7	St. Joseph's (Hartford)	A	1:00pm
Tues., Feb. 10	Elms College	A	7:00pm
Sat., Feb. 14	Springfield College	A	1:00pm
Tues., Feb. 17	Rivier College	H	7:00pm
Thurs., Feb. 19	U.S. Coast Guard Academy	H	5:30pm
Fri., Feb. 20	Maine Maritime Academy	H	7:00pm
Sat., Feb. 21	Norwich University	H	5:30pm
Mon., Feb 23.	Daniel Webster College	A	6:00pm

Better Internship Opportunities for Sport Management Majors

by Josh Shear

The Sport Management Department at Western New England College approved a new internship program last spring.

Previously, students majoring in sport management were allowed to take a three-credit internship locally, while continuing to take courses at the College. While this internship will still be available, students will now be able to do a full semester's internship for 12 credits.

Opportunities include positions with local professional teams such as the New England Blizzard and the Springfield Falcons, as well as with out-of-town teams like the Los Angeles Dodgers, and organizations such as ESPN and the United States Olympic Committee.

"Early planning is important for this program," said Sharianne Walker of the Sport Management Department. "Students will have to know by their sophomore year if they want to be part of this program."

A 3.0 GPA is required to take part in the internship.

Walker says that the internship is very important for anyone wanting to go into the sport management field because it is "really a contact business. You don't see too many positions open, and getting a job is about who you know. This internship provides an excellent opportunity for our students."

Last December, the first three students to go through the internship graduated. Two are already working in the sport management field. One of them has recently been asked to head the Australian division of his company.

Sport Management students interested in the program should contact Walker in Churchill 224. Her office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12 noon to 1pm and Monday afternoons from 2 to 4pm. ❑

In the Legends Club at the Fleet Center, Western New England College Students Chris Rushford, Brett Barr, Rob Perkoski, Chris Warnet, Jason Lopez, and Bob Cassin chat with Glenn Eishcher Director of Marketing for the Jacksonville Jaguars (center).

Students Attend Sport Management Workshop

by Josh Shear

BOSTON, Mass. — Seven Western New England College students, coordinated by senior Jason Lopez and headed by Professor Sharianne Walker of the Sport Management Department, attended a three-day workshop at the Fleet Center in Boston from January 18 to 20.

Called the National Sports Forum, the workshop featured some important people from the sport management industry, as well as other key national industrialists.

The workshop focused on several aspects of successful sport management, including office management, marketing, promotions and ticket sales.

The seven WNEC students were the only college participants among the 260 executives in attendance at the workshop. Speakers included Paul Beeston, President and Chief Executive Officer of Major League Baseball; Robert W. Erb, Director of Sports Marketing of Adidas America; Hal Price, Mach One Marketing for NASCAR; and Pat Williams, the Senior Executive Vice-President of the Orlando Magic.

The students were responsible for many aspects of conference management, including the hosting of individual speakers and the monitoring of break-out sessions.

The forum also provided opportunities to establish contacts for future guest speakers at WNEC.

Professor Walker said the workshop was a great event for the students who attended because they were able to make important contacts and hear how many of the nation's top sports executives attained their positions. ❑

Superbowl Predictions

Students Pick the Winner

by Ryan O'Connor

It was deja vu for the Green Bay Packers as the yellow cheese heads make their second consecutive Super Bowl appearances in the 90s. The Vegas Line had the Packers as the favorites. The spread was 12 points the week before Super Bowl Sunday.

	PACKERS	BRONCOS
Males	9	16
Females	12	13

It wasn't a surprise that Denver was the underdog, but what was shocking was that the spread was almost two touchdowns. Their had been a lot of speculation throughout the week prior to Sunday's game about the two starting quarterbacks. Brett Farve, the defending Super Bowl champion, has been named NFL's most valuable player three times. John Elway has only been named once for the award and had never won a super bowl. The media's and the people's choice to win Super Bowl XXXII was the Denver Broncos.

Who did the students at Western New England College want to win? A survey was made up of 25 males and 25 females on campus was conducted to answer that question.

Sophomore Tom Webster picked Denver to win by at least a touchdown. When he was asked why, he said, "John Elway has proved he is one of the premiere quarterbacks in the NFL but he will not get the respect he should until he wins a Super Bowl."

When junior Christine Wojcik was asked who she thought was going to win she said, "I want Denver to win because John Elway is very attractive."

It just goes to show that, despite popular trends and media hype, the people on the WNEC campus wanted the Denver Broncos to win in the first place and that John Elway is the big man on campus — for whatever the reason! ❑

Men's Basketball Schedule

Tues., Feb. 10	Springfield College	H	7:30pm
Thurs., Feb. 12	Babson College	A	7:30pm
Sat., Feb. 14	MIT	A	1:00pm
Tues., Feb. 17	Clark University	A	5:30pm
Thurs., Feb. 19	Johnson & Wales University	H	7:30pm
Sat., Feb. 21	Norwich University	H	7:30pm
Tues., Feb. 24-Thurs. Feb 24	CAC Tournament		

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Ask Marilyn

Dear M~
My roommate and I are having problems with the girls who live next to us. One girl is obnoxious and loud and I have spoken to her nicely but she basically laughed in my face. We listen to them every night and they don't care. My roommate and I spoke to our Resident Advisor who was sympathetic to the situation and told us to confront the girls one more time. Now they are swearing at my roommate. Why should we be considerate to them when they aren't to us, and why can't they be mature about the situation?
~Help

Dear Help~
Neighbors can definitely be a nasty lot. Sometimes they're so bad they make your neighborhood smell with their nastiness. It's nice to hear how you've tried to handle this situation: talking to them first and your R.A. second. I, of course, am disappointed to hear that these neighbors are such crass individuals. You'd think that they would have outgrown the "I'm going to get louder because you want me to be quiet" stage when they were potty trained! As far as helping you out, the best I can do is this: ATTENTION ALL NOISY, INCONSIDERATE, IMMATURE NEIGHBORS! If you do not start respecting the rights of those who live around you, you will pay dearly. Your neighbors may retaliate in ways you could never imagine OR your R.A. will soon put you in your place. Either way head these words: Grow up, shut up or go back to preschool.
~M

Dear M~
I've had my eye on this guy (let's call him Derek) since last year. We've had a couple of classes together off and on throughout the years. He makes me laugh every time we see each other. Unfortunately this semester we don't have any classes together. I did, however, see him at a party and at the end of the night we went home together. We didn't have sex, but it felt nice to be with him in other ways. I don't want to be a one night stand! What do I do now?
~Losing Sleep

Dear Losing Sleep~
I'm afraid I don't have a quick and easy solution for you on this one. The authors of *The Rules*, a book on how to find the man you're going to marry, say that you should not call a guy, you should rarely return his calls, and you shouldn't go further than a kiss on the first date. (Now, of course, I was forced to read this book from cover to cover!) It's hard to say what you really should do, what do you feel is right?! *The Rules* would say that you should wait and wait and wait for this man to give you the time of the day. You could be waiting minutes, hours, days, weeks, months...you get the idea, right?! If you want him to know that you don't want to be a one night stand, that you would like it if the two of you could spend more time together, then be strong and tell him so. Don't, however, hound the poor guy. Be subtle about telling him that you want to spend more time together, let him do some of the work. For instance, next time you see him and you're engaged in conversation, tell him that you really miss the way he makes you laugh at odd hours of the day ... words, words ... *I think we should go out some time* ... do you understand what I'm trying to get at here?! Go from there, give him your number, tell him you enjoyed your night together and hope to do it again soon. Once you have him out and alone, and you're romancing him, then you can explain your feelings. (Now, please keep in mind that romancing a guy is a whole lot different than how we, as women, like to be romanced. To get a nice overview on how to successfully romance a guy, check out this month's edition of *Redbook*.) You are on your own from there. I wish you all the luck and hope to hear how things turn out.
M~

> ***"I don't want to be a one night stand..."***

Dear M~
I'm a graduating senior. Some days I am overcome with senioritis, other days I feel like I'm going to be losing my best friends forever. Do you have any advice to help out other graduating seniors who are feeling the same way?
~Rollercoaster of Emotions

> **" I feel like I'm losing my best friends forever..."**

Dear Rollercoaster~
These feelings that you're experiencing are common to most graduating seniors at this point in their college career — I know that I'm in the same boat that you're in right now. As to how to cope with these rollercoaster of emotions, I guess it's hard to pinpoint one activity that would make everything better. For me, I am now actually taking time out to start socializing with my classmates again; this doesn't necessarily mean that I'm out getting sloshed every weekend, but it does mean that I'm trying to create memories that will last a lifetime [and lord knows the more you have to drink, the less you can remember]. I guess I just want to go out with a bang and I'm sure you do too. The best advice I can really give is the following : 1) attend as many Senior class sponsored events as possible — the more people we have there, the more fun we'll have and the more memories you can make; 2) go out and create your own fun: this doesn't necessarily mean to have a huge keg party at your apartment [but if you did and you registered it that would be fine too]. I think as classmates we need to start getting creative and put on a few theme parties — those are the ones that tend to make lasting impressions. For example, I know a few people who are quite creative and ingenious and have theme parties at least once a month. The next one they have coming up is the Pimp and Hookers Ball ... now doesn't that sound interesting and exciting. This is what we should do! So let's rise up and throw some really creative get-togethers and change the scenery a bit. Most of the seniors I have spoken to are tired of spending every weekend at Moe's and Soph's ... so what do you say?!
~M

Dear M~
There's this guy and I started dating on campus last semester. He's cute, he's smart, he's nice, but he just doesn't do it for me anymore. How do I let him down without hurting him?
~Heartbreaker

Dear Heartbreaker~
Tell him the truth! You enjoy his company on a friendly level, right?! Well, tell him that. Explain to him that time has changed how you feel about him romantically, but that you still enjoy his friendship. I'm sure he'll understand how you feel and will actually be grateful that you haven't played him for a fool. [We do have to look at both sides of the coin, right?!] On the other hand, if he doesn't react favorably to your change of heart than it's good riddance to him anyway (*ha-ha*). Someday down the road he will realize that you were trying to save the trouble of wasting his time and yours.
~M

Dear M~
I'm an outgoing, attractive male student and I have a variety of friends on campus. Unfortunately I tend to become friends with women too soon and it leaves me high and dry in the dating pool! How can I change this?
~Single guy

Dear Single guy~
Welcome to WNEC, honey, the cesspool of dating! [I'm sorry, I probably shouldn't say that, but sometimes I feel the same way as you.] Family, friends and colleagues of mine are always saying that when you least expect it, that is when you find yourself in a relationship. OK, so you start in as the "good guy friend" too soon. Who cares if they see you as a guy friend who they can substitute as the girlfriend they can talk to about anything. You should feel privileged to actually have an "in" on what the opposite sex thinks and feels! [I know, for me and many others, that having this "in" is one of the bonuses of having a ton of guy friends — it makes it easier to find out what makes you tick]. Anyway, your question is "How can you change this?" Hmm...I'm wondering why you would want to actually change your situation. Yeah, so you're a bit lonely with no one to cuddle with — aren't we all! I guess my suggestion would be to spend a little less time in the intimate let-me-share-my-guts-with-you mode and try to stay a bit more distant if you think that will help you remain mysterious and wanted by your female companions. [Personally, I wouldn't do that. If I were you I would do what I normally do because THAT is when you will find someone who actually wants to be with you for you, not some piece of you]. Still remain the "great guy friend" though, you definitely don't want to mess up and lose a good thing!
~M

Dear Western New England College Community~

I just wanted to quickly write you a little hello and apologize for not being in the last issue of The Westerner.

As the announcement stated, I was on an extended vacation. If you ever have the chance to head overseas, I highly recommend it! Believe it or not, Stonehendge IS as big as it looks in the photos. The only bad thing about visiting that huge formation is that you can't actually get up-close and personal with it, they have the area roped off and you're not allowed on the grass =(Oh well, such is life. London is a marvelous city and I think everyone should visit there at least once in their life time, but visiting Camden Market was an experience like no other. They have Docs, jewelry, clothing, books, art, you name it. All for sale on the street. Anyway, enough about my vacation!

I just wanted to let you know that on Friday, February 13, at noon, I will be making a guest appearance on WNEK FM 105.1. At this time we will be doing a live Ask Marilyn call in show. I hope you will take the time to listen and call in (782-1586). Since Valentine's Day is the next day, I'm sure we'll have a lot of material to work with.

Alright, take care, enjoy your week, and please keep sending me letters!
~Marilyn

Golden Bear Classifieds

Announcements

Put Off Your Studying and Earn Money!!

If you were sent the CORE Alcohol and Drug Survey (on 2/9/98), you are part of a lucky group chosen by random selection. The office of Alcohol and Drug Education is seeking accurate information about WNEC students and alcohol and drug use to help out with designing the new program. The survey takes about 15 - 20 minutes to complete. It is designed so YOUR ANSWERS ARE ANONYMOUS. Those students who fill out the survey and return the postcard (indicating the survey was sent), will be entered in a drawing for a $50 gift certificate at the Holyoke Mall. SEND IN YOUR SURVEY TODAY!! Call Lore Detenber at Alcohol and Drug Education Services if you have any questions, extension 1360.

2/6, Friday's. Reggae-- Sponsored by U&ME.

2/6, Movie Night. Franklin. 6PM.

2/7, Skiing, With Plymouth Residents. 9AM. Blanford Ski Area.

2/7, Senior 98 Countdown Party.

2/7, X-Country Skiing. Sponosred by the Wellness Room.

2/8, Ski Trip to Mt. Snow.

2/8, Bowling With Hampden. 2pm.

2/9, PA Appilication Deadline.

2/10, RHA Dream Date Auction.

2/11, CAB Movie -- "Ghosts of Mississippi."

2/12, Open Forum to discuss Student Bill of Rights. 12:30, S-100.

2/13, Friday's.

2/14, "House Jacks." Accapella. Sponsored by CAB.

2/13 - 2/15, Windham Hall Weekend.

2/16 - 2/20, Winter Week.

2/16, Health Fair. AHLC.

2/16, "Flipper Dave." Band. Dining Room A.

2/17, Business Cluster Dinner. 5PM. Dining Room B.

2/17, 7:30PM. Gender, Music, and the Decorative in 19th Century British Avant-Gardism: Woman as Modemist Artist and "Sign." Laura Hendricksom. Connecticut College (Art History).

2/17 - 2/19, Penny War Fundraiser. Sponsored by classes.

2/18, Win Big Bingo. Gateway Residence Life, CAB. 8PM. People's Place.

2/19, Mike Super. Magician.

2/20, Friday's. U&ME/ CAB -- Dance Performance.

Announcements

Calling All Students!

Trip to New York City.

February 27, 1998.

Visit the New York Stock Exchange, Federal Reserve Bank, NBC, Empire State Building, Bennihanna's Restaurant, Comedy Club, Free time, Broadway Shows. See a CAB officer or a Financial Management Association Rep. for more information.

Advertise Here!

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Thursday

February 26, 1998

Final Submission Date.

The Review of Art & Literature. Color Cover Contest = $$$. Call 782-1581 or visit The Student Publications Office, CC#163, for details.

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Raise all the money your student group needs by sponsoring a **VISA Fundraiser** on your campus. No investment & very little time needed. There's no obligation, so why not call for information today. Call 1-800-323-8454 x95.

Any information regarding the theft of a 1995 Jeep Wrangler, Blue with black hardtop, from the center parking lot in Gateway on Thursday night (1/29) / Friday morning (1/30) please call 796-4385. Thank you.

Lost & Found

See Information Booth for the following items: glasses, car key, pair of gloves, and an umbrella.

Lost -- My heart, to you. We met only once and I can't get you out of my mind. It was cold and I was walking across campus, you slowed down to see if I needed a ride. Please find me again. Happy Valentine's Day.

Would the following people please stop by the Information Booth, we have your IDs: Jose Marin, Joseph Sopor, and Kiev K. Dao. Thank you.

For Sale

Do you have anything to sell, swap, or trade? Contact the advertising manager for more details on how this space could be your advertisement.

Jobs

Need Algebra Help? Call Minke, (413) 283-4171. I'm offering FREE on-line e-mail help; FREE on-line chat room help; on-line hiring; and off-line hiring. Rate for hiring is $10.00/ hour. E-mail address is ASAPNOW098@aol.com.

Seniors

Don't Forget: 98 Days Party Saturday Night! Dress to impress because you may be caught on film!

Wanted

Anyone interested in Photography:

There will be an Introductory/ interest group meeting February 18, 8:00PM in Campus Center Room #4. Please come with ideas!

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Hurry! Hurry! Hurry! Hurry!

There are still two main positions available on *The Westerner* staff: News Editor and Treasurer.

The News Editor is responsible for the layout of the news section, for assigning stories to be covered, and for reviewing press releases that come into *The Westerner* office.

The Treasurer is responsible for tracking office expenses, securing purchase orders, making payments to appropriate companies, depositing money from advertisements, and monitoring the financial activity of the paper.

These are excellent opportunities for communication majors and business majors to acquire practical experience in their fields. If you are interested, contact *The Westerner* at extension 1580, or stop by the student publications office in the Campus Center.

This space could be yours!

Quick Reminder!!

Dream Date Auction

February 10, 8:00PM

Campus Center

Help raise $$ for the YWCA ARCHS Shelter. Be a contestant or bid on your friends!

David Kubera, Keith McMahon, Ben Benton, Kevin Beaudoin, and Prof. Paul Costanzo pose at awards ceremony — see page 3

Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

February 20, 1998

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 43 / Issue 8

Political Science Association Competes in Model U.N.

by Craig Nakashian

Amidst the most adverse winter conditions, the Western New England College Political Science Association (PSA) trekked to Boston to participate in an International Model United Nations Simulation hosted by Harvard University on the weekend of February 7 and 8.

The thirteen person delegation, representing the Central Asian nation-state of Turkmenistan, was headed up by sophomore and president of the PSA, Mike Stratton.

The simulation involved over twenty-four hours of intense debating and caucusing, as well as many additional hours of informal agenda formulation.

Over two thousand students from as far away as India and Turkey represented the various nation-states of the world.

Such prestigious institutions as Yale University, The United States Military Academy (West Point), and the University of Chicago also sent delegations to participate. The staff and moderators at the conference were all students from Harvard.

This simulation differed from most other model U.N. simulations in that it only operated within a committee environment, as opposed to the more common, larger general assembly settings.

See **MODEL**, page 3

A Stalker on Campus?

Trespasser Questioned by Public Safety

by Jennifar O'Brien
Layout Editor

On February 11, a man was charged with trespassing on the grounds of Western New England College.

Windham Hall

Franklin Hall

He is described, by Windham residents, as a tall black male in his 40s with facial hair.

At approximately 8:35 a.m., on the morning of the 11th, Windham housekeeping staff recognized the man when he approached them asking for a list of the hall's residents. He, in turn, was asked to leave the building. When departing, he mentioned that he intended to go on to Franklin Hall, according to sources.

The housekeeping staff immediately reported the sighting to Windham R.A. Tim St. James. He then telephoned public safety, alerting them to the situation.

Around 9am a resident spotted him on the second floor of Franklin.

Shortly thereafter, the man was spoken to by Public Safety officers and charged with trespassing.

The man "didn't commit any crime on campus," said Officer O'Shea, but "if he does show up on campus again, we do have legal rights to arrest him."

The man received a verbal warning stating that he was no longer welcome on the grounds of Western New England College.

The policy of Public Safety, after a verbal warning, is to follow up by sending a written notification reissuing the warning. Once signed, it will be put on file for one year, whereupon the warning expires. Notification is still kept on file in the permanent records.

Definitive sightings of the man who Windham residents have come to call "the stalker" go back at least to January 27.

He is said to have yelled at one resident when he mistakenly thought she had given false directions.

On January 28 he was spotted by the Windham housekeeping staff copying down the names and room numbers of the hall's female residents.

In response to earlier sightings reported to public safety, flyers were posted in the residence halls as a caution and aid to anyone aware of "suspicious" persons in the area.

If seen again on campus, you are urged to contact Public Safety immediately. Supply them with a description of the person, along with the location of the sighting.

Public Safety is in contact with other law enforcement agencies, including the Springfield Police Department and Springfield College Police, to keep aware of any new information.

An open forum for concerned residents, meanwhile, was held in both Franklin and Windham halls on February 16, providing the opportunity for students to ask questions regarding the recent events both on campus and in Springfield.

Concerns were expressed about the ease with which the man was able to gain access to the residence halls. Students are asked to be aware of whom they are letting into their buildings.

For female residents concerned with their safety and wishing to take personal action, opportunities are available.

RAD, a self-defense class for

See **TRESPASS**, page 2

Death of the Middle Class

First Lecture in Series Looks at Poverty

by Wayna Barr
Editor

Middle class preoccupations are nothing new — over two thousand years ago, Aristotle argued that the best government was the one which could sustain the broadest middle class.

Sustaining the middle class is the focus of a new series of lectures called "The Death of the Middle Class." Sponsored by the Human Relations Committee, the first lecture was held at 3:30pm on Wednesday, February 11.

Prof. Joseph Davey

While there is perhaps no direct connect between Aristotle and the lectures, the focus of the series will be on the middle class's shrinking place in American society.

Professor Joseph Davey's first

See **POVERTY**, page 4

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NEWS

February 1998

THE WESTERNER

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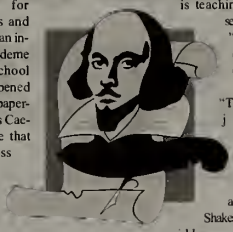
Shakespeare Finds Refuge at Western New England College

by Wayne Barr

According to T. S. Eliot, "Shakespeare gives the greatest width of human passion; Dante the greatest altitude and greatest depth." For students of literature outside of the Italian tradition, the reverence for Shakespeare's plays and poetry has been such an integral part of the academe that, before high school students have even opened their first dog-eared, paperback copies of "Julius Caesar," they are aware that they are about to cross a significant literary threshold.



Post-secondary institutions across America, however, seem to have come to regard their literature curricula as too "horizontally challenging." After a prevailing tradition of requiring English majors to take in-depth courses on Shakespeare before graduating, many universities and colleges are eliminating the Shakespeare requisite altogether.

The trend has not been met complacently. A report by the National Alumni Forum concluded that "for English majors not to take Shakespeare ... is tantamount to a fraud."

It has since become popular to cite courses which students at different universities and colleges are being offered as academic equivilants to formally mandatory Shakespeare courses — courses like "Leaming to Curse," for example, or "Film Noir/Hard-Boiled Detective Fiction."

Shakespeare at WNEC

Western New England College still requires its few English/literature majors to take at least one course in Shakespearean studies — either "Shakespeare: Tragedies" (ENGL 315) or "Shakespeare: Comedies and Histories" (ENGL 316).

It doesn't seem that WNEC will be following the lead of its collegiate counterparts, either.

"I can't understand why they're dropping Shakespeare," said professor Edward Jansen, who is teaching this semester's "Tragedies" course.

"There's just something different about Shakespeare," said Jansen. "More Shakespeare plays are done every year than any other playwright. He's the second most quoted ... he's the most entertaining ... If you're going to require anything, it should be Shakespeare."

Professor Eugene Angus, chair of the Department of English and Humanities, agrees.

"There isn't a more powerful or more beautiful use of the language to be found anywhere," he said, and students not required to take it may "miss out on a great deal."

Explaining the Change

With the chorus of academic protest against the elimination of the Shakespeare requirement, it is difficult to understand why so many universities and colleges have been able to do so.

A popular theory, according to the January 27, 1997 issue of the Springfield *Advocate*, is that colleges are bowing to the "market demands" of students paying inflated tuition expenses. Since students footing the bill don't want to take Shakespeare, why make them?

If the academic culture at WNEC is any indication, this theory seems unlikely.

Every time a Shakespeare course is offered, it always fills up, said Jansen — and not only with the English/literature majors who are required to take it. Of the 37 students currently enrolled in the "Tragedies" course, only nine are majoring in literature.

Jansen also discredits the notion that what is taught is not as relevant as the abstract theories which explain the processes of literature — "literature" being defined as anything from Homer to a Bazooka Joe comic.

"It's possible to have history professors who have never read Gibbons; psychology professors who have never read Freud," he said. "Now we can have English professors who've never read Shakespeare. It's the same sort of thing ... Whether [these writers] are right or wrong, whether you agree with them or not, doesn't matter."

Another theory explaining the apparent academic disinterest in Shakespeare exhibited at other universities is the dissemination of Shakespeare into popular culture — an area sometimes considered with artistic disdain by pedants of college English departments.

According to Angus, however, this is no justification for eliminating the Shakespeare requisite.

"There are always going to be popular bastardizations of classic literature," he said. "It's still enthralling to read the beautiful language of the text."

Although there is no indication that WNEC will ever drop its Shakespeare requirement, the English Department is planning to expand its curriculum by offering special courses which will focus on one writer exclusively — writers other than Shakespeare. ❑

TRESPASS, *from page 1*

women, is available through the Public Safety Department — nine hours of classes designed to help women learn to protect themselves.

If you are interested in the RAD program, contact the officer on duty at 782-1300. For more information, brochures are available at the Public Safety office ❑

SWE

Society of Women Engineers

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- Demonstrate the value of diversity.

ATTENTION....

The time has come to start looking for an *Internship*.

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- Are you planning to do an Internship in the Summer &/ or Fall?
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Don't wait till the last minute!

You should have your Internship Site confirmed BEFORE the end of this semester.

Well, now is the time to start your paperwork!

Stop by Career & Human Resources and see *Sonia Martinez*

Right Now!

THE NEXT *WESTERNER* DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 25. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

MODEL, *from page 1*

Theoretically, the time was to be spent choosing an agenda to debate, then formulating working papers and resolutions to solve the given problem. In reality, the process was more involved and complex.

"Formulating alliances was vital right from the beginning, and the networking was intense," said senior Thea Martin, representative of the U.N. Legal Committee. "Even if you aren't completely comfortable with the topic, you should plunge right in anyway."

Initially, the WNEC delegation was somewhat apprehensive about competing against schools which formally treated the conference as part of the regular curriculum. However, a practicum in diplomacy, taught by professor Vladimir Wozniuk, helped to assuage the delegates' uncertainties.

Senior Geoff Stowell, also on the Legal Committee, said that this model U.N. conference was a perfect opportunity for WNEC to gain positive name recognition in Western Mass. and the rest of the country.

"It is the ultimate simulative involvement for students of virtually any major," Stratton said. "It allows students to broaden their horizons by meeting and working intimately with students from around the country and around the world."

Despite their apprehension and early procedural difficulties, all of the WNEC delegates agreed that this experience was worth the effort of studying and preparing for it.

A model U.N. trip for next year is still under consideration. Questions remain about funding and whether to make a separate class for the conference, or to deem it an extra-curricular activity.

Most colleges that attend the conference treat the simulations as part of their regular curriculum, which may have given those students an edge when it came to preparation and subject information. Despite the fact that some of the other schools had literally spent years in preparation for the conference, the members of the WNEC delegation felt they were competitive and an instrumental part of the process.

Stowell said he felt a sense of pride knowing that WNEC students had competed against students from Ivy League schools, and had held their own against a difficult competition. Whatever happens next year, the PSA agreed that the model U.N. is definitely something they enjoyed and would like to participate in again. ❑

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Sales Competition Winners

by David Kubera

On Tuesday, February 10, Kate Kane of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company awarded finalists in a sales competition held last December by members of the Marketing Association.

The competition consisted of eight marketing students, whose job was to sell a cappuccino machine to a director of food service. The sale was then videotaped and sent to Northwestern, where their top salespeople judged each sale in specified catagories.

The third prize, a dress shirt, went to Benjamin Benton.

The second prize, a pair of dress shoes, when to Kevin Beaudoin.

Finally, first prize, an interview suite, went to Keith McMahon. For finishing first, MacMahon will also get his tape submutted to a national competition put on by Northwestern.

Next March, the Marketing Association plans to hold a "Gold Fish Sale" to raise money for the Make-a-Wish-Foundation.

A half gallon fish bowl, blue gravel, care instructions, and a goldfish will be sold for the low price of $4.99.

All proceeds will go to the Make-a-Wish-Foundation. ❑

Plan a Sun-Safe Spring Break

If you've been thinking of visiting an indoor tanning salon to get a base tan before going somewhere sunny for spring break or to get a tan while you're on break, think again.

No tan is healthy for your skin, whether obtained at the beach or with indoor tanning lamps, said Dr. Rex Amonette, a Memphis, Tenn. dermatologist and a past president of the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD). "A tan is a sign of injury. It is the skin's response to an overdose of ultraviolet radiation."

Some people think that a base tan will protect them from a sunburn, adds Dr. Amonette. "However, an indoor tan has, at best, the screening power of a sunscreen with an SPF 4, offering almost no protection from the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun."

Tanning with a sunlamp is not safer than suntanning, contrary to what the tanning industry says. Although indoor tanning beds give a smaller amount of burning rays (ultraviolet B light) than the sun, fair-skinned people who do not limit their exposure may still burn. Also, severe burns can occur in people who tan while taking medicines that make them light-sensitive, such as certain antibiotics and acne medication.

Less obvious, however, is the damage that tanning beds and sunlamps can cause years later.

"Suntanning, especially indoor tanning, has only negative health consequences," commented Dr. Dennis Lynch, a plastic surgeon practicing in Temple, Tex., and president of the American Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons (ASPRS).

Tanning beds and sunlamps provide an intense dose of ultraviolet a (UVA) light that penetrates deep into the skin. "Thirty minutes in an indoor tanning bed is equal to a day at the beach for ultraviolet A exposure," Dr. Amonette said.

Warnings of Possible side effects from large doses of UVA radiation are required at tanning operations in most of the 24 states that regulate indoor tanning facilities. One risk is skin cancer.

Link to skin cancer

Clinical studies have shown a clear link between UVA exposure from indoor tanning and two types of skin cancer: basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma. It may also accelerate the development of melanoma, the most serious type of skin cancer.

"While skin cancers can be found on any part of the body, about 80 percent appear on the face, head or neck, where they can be disfiguring as well as dangerous," said Dr. Lynch.

Skin cancer usually develops many years after exposure to ultraviolet light, but can occur in younger people. "I have seen basal cell carcinomas among indoor tanners in their teens and 20s. These tumors are a much more devastating damage to the skin," Dr. Amonette warned.

More than 1 million new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed each year, making it the most common cancer in this country.

Protect your skin

Although avoidance of the sun is ideal, Dr. Lynch admitted that it "is somewhat unrealistic to expect young people on spring break to stay out of the sun altogether. I cannot, however, stress enough how critical it is that they wear sunscreen to avoid burning, especially between 10am and 4pm, when the sun's rays are the strongest."

The ASPRS and AAD are both concerned with preventing skin cancer, and recommend these tips for a sun-safe spring break and summer:

- Do not intentionally tan, either outdoors or using indoor tanning beds and sunlamps. If you still choose to use indoor tanning facilities, follow safety guidelines, such as limiting exposure time to 10 or 15 minutes and wearing eye goggles.
- Try to avoid the sun between 10am and 4pm.
- Thirty minutes before going outside, apply a sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15. Reapply sunscreen every two hours and after swimming.
- Outdoors, wear a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses and clothes that cover your skin.
- At the beach, take special precautions. Use a waterproof sunblock, which blocks out more rays, and, whenever possible, stay in the shade.

If you want the look of a tan, try using makeup or self-tanning lotions.

To find a dermatologist or plastic surgeon in your area who can provide information on keeping your skin healthy, call toll free to the AAD, 1-800-462-DERM, or the ASPRS, 1-800-635-0635. ❑

POVERTY, *from page 1*

lecture of the series, however, dealt with a subject matter often glossed over by individual members of the middle class, and virtually ignored in the self-indulgence of more recent "Generation X" literature: poverty.

The Extent of Poverty

Davey, who himself grew up in a middle class environment before working socially with inner city youths, demonstrated the "extent" of poverty anecdotally. He told specifically of his experiences with Anthony and Victor Harvey, two brothers who later stabbed an old man to death.

He said, "I didn't realize from my humble upbringing that this sort of America existed" — an America in which rats live with children, roaches scurry across the furniture and dishes, and opportunities for economic improvement seem to exist only for other social classes.

In an ironic aside, Davey pointed out that in jail, the Harvey boys would have clean sheets, clean water, and showers.

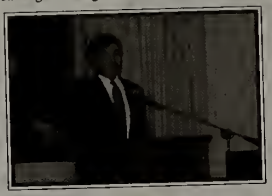
From a statistical point of view this is absurd, said Davey, who cited the social security and Medicare benefits of the AARP.

"The AARP has created an extraordinarily generous Medicare package ... yet we can't put children in a Headstart program," said Davey. "We know this works — their chances of being arrested are 51 percent greater if they don't get in a Headstart program."

Because seniors have the power to lobby and unionize, they have secured a tremendous economic power — a tremendously unbalanced power, according to Davey, who said that "Medicare squanders money that should be spent on children under 5."

Some Causes of Poverty

Among the myriad causes of poverty, Davey focused on the globalization of capital (a topic covered more extensively in last semester's lecture about the Asian economy, delivered by Professor William Bosworth), the flood of immigrants and women to low wage labor markets, and the self-destruction of unions.



According to Davey, upstart liberal democrats often buy their own homes, send their children to college, and then "complain about taxes and join the republican party."

Some believe that this middle-class mentality of self-preservation has led to a growing antagonism towards social welfare spending. While Davey acknowledged that social welfare spending has "skyrocketed in the last thirty years," he pointed out that only 15 percent of social welfare spending is on the poor, while the remaining 85 percent is on "middle class entitlements" such as Medicare and social security.

Other middle class provisions, like the home mortgage interest deduction provided to homeowners, has no lower class counterpart — nor, for that matter, any international counterpart, Davey said. Public housing vouchers, which could allow low-income individuals or families to select their own residences, are notgovernment-funded, he said.

"We tend to take very good care of ourselves as middle class citizens," Davey said.

Finally, Davey turned his attention to a final cause of poverty: deadbeat dads. Challenging conservatives who cite moral degradation and declining standards, Davey said, "I do not agree that it is attributable to any breakdown in morality. What I do see are many economic factors which have changed."

According to Davey, in the 70s it was possible for a man to "do the right thing" by marrying and settling down, but now this is nearly an economic impossibility.

"Conservatives say people are morally bankrupt without considering the minimum wage," Davey said. In 1971, for example, a person had to work 42 hours a week at minimum wage to reach the poverty level, but today the same person would have to work 71 hours to achieve the same level of subsistence, he said.

Solving the Problem

To begin reversing the increase in poverty in America and the rise in illegitimate children, Davey recommended doubling the minimum wage, or at least "substantially" increasing it.

"We will pay more for Big Macs and oil changes, but we will see stronger families," he said.

He also recommended that the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) be increased by 15 billion dollars, that a Federal Training Act require employers like Sony and AT&T to train their employees and improve workers' skills as they are working; and that money spent on prison development be put into low income housing vouchers.

"We must encourage a more equitable distribution of wealth to preserve the middle class," he said. "Democracy survives when you have a healthy middle class."

Aristotle, one imagines, would agree.

On February 18 Professor Michael Meeropol delivered the second lecture on "The Erosion of the Middle Class." The third lecture, on wealth, is being rescheduled. The fourth and final lecture, to be delivered by Professor Frances Fox Piven of CUNY, is scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, at 7pm in Sleith 100. ❑

Few Students Attend Open Forum

by Wayne Barr

Less than a dozen students and faculty members attended the open forum regarding the proposed Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities on Thursday, February 12, at 12:30 in Dining Room B.

Ryan Courtemanche, president of the sophomore class and the driving force behind the bill, said he did not believe this reflected lack of student interest in the bill.

Courtemanche said he has distributed over sixty copies of the bill, and believes students are reading it.

Despite the lack of attendance, several issues were raised, especially on Article 4C, which states that students are free to take "reasoned and reasonable exception" to views presented in the classroom.

The terms "reasoned and reasonable" seemed unclear to some.

Some wondered how students would be chosen to serve on the grievance committee.

According to Courtemanche, the process for students would likely be application-based, while the faculty senate would appoint its own members.

According to Courtemanche, Dr. Caprio has suggested that the document's name be changed.

Based on the reaction of those present, this seems unlikely. ❑

Peer Education

A New Group for Prevention

by Heidi Drawec

Do you worry about your friends' drinking habits? See or hear about too many people drinking and driving?

Do you wish that there was some way that the college would give more exciting alternatives to drinking?

Are you looking to join a group that is interested in helping the college and the students?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the college has something for you.

Peer Education is a new group that is forming on the WNEC campus. This group is not about abolishing alcohol or other drugs.

It is not about lecturing students on campus about the dangers of alcohol and other drugs. The group's purpose is very different.

According to the Peer Educators' Statement of Purposes and Goals, "The Peer Educators are a diverse group of students who promote informed decisions about pertinent health-related topics through active listening, programming, events, written material, and activities."

Jen [last name withheld], a member of the Peer Education group, revealed what she thought the most valuable aspect of the group is. "We are trying to make a difference by having people become more aware of important issues through events and programs," she said.

The group believes an outreach to the students on health issues such as alcohol is needed. They are not condemning alcohol but rather giving alternatives and suggesting safer way to drink.

Matt [last name withheld], a freshman WNEC student, thought a concert was a good idea. When asked if he would attend a concert featuring five bands, he stated, "Sure, I would go to a concert like that — if I liked the music."

This is just one of the "alternatives" that the group is talking about.

The group is trying to portray a certain message to the campus — being educated is the key to prevention.

Peer Education is trying to prevent any fatal accidents or serious injuries on campus due to alcohol or other drugs, before they occur.

This group believes that it is never too late to prevent a tragedy from occurring.

Is WNEC ready to handle an alcohol-related death? Peer Education is ready to help prevent such an occurrence from happening.

If you are interesting in joining the group or have any ideas you would like to see happen on campus, you are welcome to attend weekly meetings which are held Tuesday nights at 5:45pm in Conference Room 5, in the campus center. For more information, call Lore at 782-1360. ❑

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Applicants must have Bachelor's degree and a 3.2 GPA, complete all sections GRE, submit application essay, complete following courses with B or better: Intro to Psych; Abnormal Psy; Child Growth & Devel; Psy of Aging; Human Anat & Phys I & II (8 cr); Kinesiology; Neurosc (4 cr); Stats I & II; Soc, Anth, Eco, Urb Studies (6 cr total)

APPLICATION DEADLINE - APRIL 20TH

For information and application, call: Dept of Grad & Continuing Ed -- (508) 929-8120

News from D'Amour Library:

Computer Workstations with Internet Access

As you may have notieed, last summer D'Amour Library upgraded and increased the number of workstations in the reference area. There are now eight machines with access to the Intemet.

Using the homepage (libraries.wnec.edu) as a starting point, it is possible to access WILDPAC, the on-line computerized catalog, periodical indexes, and many other on-line reference sources. Using various search engines, any site on the Intemet is available. (Ask a reference librarian for help if you feel a bit overwhelmed by all the choices!)

Also, a decision was made to "outsource" all library prioting/photocopying. There is now a system-printer for the eight Intemet accessible workstations, and Sharp copiers on the first and secood floors for regular copying. The company which has the contract has installed debit card machines and set the price of 15 cents a page for the system-printer and 10 cents a page (or less) for the copiers.

This is the only way the library can see to handle the "computers/full text databases/Internet *and* printers" needs at this time.

Downloading to disk is still an option — and it is now possible to send files to email — both at no cost.

Since the start of the fall semester the word has gotten around about Intemet accessible workstations in the library. They have become more and more popular, and often all the machines are being used. (The library homepage, http://libraries.wnec.edu, is available outside the library to those with Intemet access.) Students are urged to consider the following guidelines before using the D'Amour computers:

- Students, faculty and staff of Western New England College and the visitors to the College are responsible for adherence to the D'Amour Library's *Acceptable Use of Technology* policy.
- Library computer workstations are to be used for academic purposes. E-mail and word processing are available elsewhere on campus.
- Usage is restricted to 30 minutes if others are waiting.
- Usage priority is given to members of the Western New England College Community.
- Library computer workstation users may not install or run their own software on library computers.
- Anyone is allowed to print from the library computer workstations over the network printer. The charge is $.15 per page. Debit cards for the printer may be purchased at the debit card machine located on the main floor of the library.

The computer resource at D'Amour Library should be used in an ethical manner with high moral, legal, and professional standards. Misuse will result in the loss of the privilege of access. Examples of misuses include, but are not limited to, these activities:

- Attempting unauthorized access to a password protected system.
- Sharing password or PIN with aoyone.
- Using the computers for other than legitimate academic and administrative purposes.
- Not respecting others' right of privacy.
- Displaying sexually explicit, graphically disturbing or sexually harassing images or text io a location that can potentially be in view of other individuals.
- Displaying messages of any type on a computer, which would be illegal or inappropriate in a spoken or printed form.
- Noncompliance with the copyright laws and provisions of the licensing agreements that apply to all technological resources licensed and/or purchased by the library or accessible over the network provided by the library.
- Creating, installing, or disseminating destructive software (e.g., viruses, trojan horses, etc.) that might disrupt, overcrowd, or otherwise degrade access to the library's information resources.
- Using the library workstations to support inappropriate activities, even if the activities do not interfere indirectly with library services. Use of library workstations for monetary gain will be deemed inappropriate.
- Any interference with D'Amour Library's attempts to provide reliable computer services to its users. ❑

Ask Marilyn

Dear M~
I had a wonderful relationship with a girl for nearly eight months until we broke up, her decision. Now she's dating someone else, and every time I see them together the jealousy rips me apart. I can't stop imagining them together, laughing, sharing their lives — it's driving me crazy! I can't seem to concentrate on anything else. Most of all, I just hate feeling this way. Is there anything I can do, should do, to get over her and past these jealous feelings?
~Jealousy.

Dear Jealousy~
I had a friend who was once in the same situation you find yourself in now. He found it tough to be in the same room as his ex and her new man too. At that time I suggested that he avoid her at all cost. For you I suggest the following: don't go to the same hangouts and haunts the two of you used to frequent, try to go to dinner at a different time than she does, and don't go to parties where you know she will he. Time will he your best friend for now and will soon heal your open wounds. Put your energy to good use! Instead of imagining them together, try and fill your time with other activities: join another club or organization, volunteer your time for a local charity, e-mail your friends more frequently, study more and shoot for that 4.0 this semester, or go and workout in the AHLC. At any rate, you need to put her out of your mind because she obviously has put you out of her life. I guess there is no real point in mooning over someone who doesn't want you, now is there? Besides, does she really deserve you anyway?

Dear M~
My roommate is a sloh! She misses the trash can most of the time, crumbs are left on the counter, her dirty clothes litter our living room, and she never does the dishes. I'm getting sick of picking up after her. What should I do?
~Giving up in Gateway.

Dear Giving Up~
These days I don't have too much experience with roommates since I live alone, but back in the day I did happen to live with this one woman who was overly fanatic about the cleanliness of our apartment: everything smelled like bleach. Sometimes I used to come home and think that I stepped into a hospital waiting room rather than my own living room. What I guess I am trying to say to you is this: are you just being overly sensitive to how your roommate picks up after herself? Now, my dear, I can understand your frustration if the clothes littered across the living room happen to be her under garments and not her jacket or the sweater she was wearing that day, but if we are talking about odd and end items that get picked up at the end of the night or the next morning I think you need to really take a look at what is important here: is this undue stress you are feeling now going to make a difference in your life one year from now? Five years from now? Yeah, I didn't think so! My suggestion to you is this: take a minute with your roommate and explain that your are bothered by her untidiness, blah, blah, blah. Suggest that she remove her clothing upstairs in her room, that she do her dishes immediately after dinner, and that she consciously put the trash in the can rather than missing and hitting the floor. Use constructive criticisms rather than blaming her — it'll definitely get you further and save your relationship. Other than that I think you might need to loosen up a bit and realize that she probably has a problem with some of the things you do [or don't do too, no one is perfect!]

Dear M~
I'm in love with my best friend; he is a guy and so am I. I don't know what to do anymore. I want him to know how I feel but I don't want him to hate me for my feelings. I guess it's just hard being here and feeling like I have no place to go and no one to talk to about this. I was hoping you could give me an idea of where I can go from here.
~Alone.

Dear Alone~
You are the first to write me with such a dilemma, and to tell you the truth I really don't know what I could tell you to make everything "all hetter." As far as where you can go, I would have to suggest Counseling Services. Now, I'm not suggesting them because I think you have issues that you need to deal with, but hecause I know you can talk to them about anything and then *they* can direct you where to go next for help or advice. Being in love with your best friend must be really hard to deal with, especially since he is of the same sex as you. I know, in the past, it was hard for me to be "in love" with some of my best guy friends, knowing I would never have a chance because we were too close, not because we were of the same gender. I wish WNEC had a Gay and Straight Alliance set up on main campus for students in similar situations as yourself. From what I remember, the Law School has a group established, but for some ungodly reason we don't. Well, I feel like I may be wasting your time. For someone to talk to please contact Coun-

Have a problem?

Please mail all questions, comments, and suggestions to box 1419 or drop them off to the Student Publications Office.

EDITORIALS

February 20, 1998

People Can Change

Twenty-three year old Karla Faye Tucker killed two people, leaving her murder weapon protruding from one of the bodies. Thirty-eight year old Karla Faye Tucker died of lethal injection with Pope John Paul praying for her.

Tucker's case doesn't demand looking at the death penalty to determine whether it is morally right. People will always differ on that particular topic. What needs to be looked at here is the idea of people changing with time.

Ten years ago, Karla Faye Tucker was a hardened woman who had been in jail for five years for killing two people.

If she was to be the first woman executed in Texas since the Civil War, that would have been a great time for it. She was a woman who no longer had any solid connection to the nutside world, was indifferent to the prison world around her, and saw no reason to change who she was. Society didn't need her, and it sure as heck didn't want her.

Then something happened.

Somehow, Karla learned to love. First, it had to be herself, because if one doesn't love oneself, one can't truly love anyone else.

Then, it was people, because she needed a stepping stone.

Finally, it was God.

Many arguments can be made as to the progression of her love or her faith, and many can be made as to why she chose to try to love God.

But whatever the argument, the end result was the same. Karla had changed.

The person that Karla had become could have helped somebody, would have wanted to help somebody. She made a terrible judgment once, and she was more than willing to spend the rest of her life in jail for it.

In fact, that is exactly what she pleaded for. She didn't ask to be pardoned for her crime. She didn't try to justify the crime.

She wanted to live out her life in a small cell with the guilt of that crime on her conscience. She didn't ask the families to forgive her; she knew they wouldn't. She wanted to be an example for others, not just a number.

Her pleas for her life did not fall entirely on deaf ears. The Texas government reportedly received thousands of letters in her support, including letters from death penalty supporter Pat Robertson and even the Pope himself.

Yes, that's right. Pope John Paul wanted the State of Texas to spare the life of a killer.

That's a good bit of support.

However, it proved to not be enough. Despite Tucker's support, Texas stood by its decision to execute her. Perhaps at one time, she was a woman who deserved to die. When she died, she was not.

People do change, and when a person suddenly wants to help herself and others, he or she should be allowed to, if only by limited means. Tucker should have been given the chance to help change someone else's life for the better. True, she couldn't have erased the past, but she could have helped to make at least a slightly better future for someone.❑

Josh Shear

From the Editors

According to the 1997-1998 undergraduate catalog, "*The Westerner* is published twice each month and serves as the voice of the undergraduate students of Western New England College."

Until this issue, that statement, and others like it in previous student catalogs, has been false. Although WNEC has enjoyed a consistently produced newspaper for more than a year now, *The Westerner* has not been a semimonthly publication. In most cases, an issue of *The Westerner* was published once a month — sometimes, once every five weeks.

It is possible to argue — persuasively, convincingly even — that it is unfair for the undergraduate catalog to trumpet the achievements of students before they have been accomplished; that a catalog which promises hopeful undergraduates the traditions of clubs and organizations which do not or cannot live up to their descriptions reflects poorly on the institution that publishes it; that an administration preoccupied with the retention of its students ought to compare the promises inherent in the catalogs and guidebooks to the realities on campus — it is possible to argue, in other words, that the paper's slow rate of publication is simply not the fault of the students who produce it.

In the verbosity of so much rhetoric there is probably an element of truth — some of the clubs and organizations listed in the student handbook or catalog are nearly, if not entirely, defunct. There are periods of progress and regression, times in which students of one class work better, somehow, than students of the classes which preceed them. Given the changes over the years, then, it may be unfair for students to expect the catalogs under which they will graduate to reflect the undetermined idiosyncracies of their class.

Perhaps, then, students may see the proclamations of the student catalog as ideals after which they may strive. Organizations may not be ready-made for freshmen who arrive on campus: activities may be sparse. Hopefully — for now — the energy put into student clubs and organizations can have a self-perpetuating effect.

Hopefully, at least, that can be the case for *The Westerner*. As a forum for more current events and controversies than before, *The Westerner* will work best with freelance submissions from individual students, as well as from clubs and organizations who are themselves trying to sustain their own momentum.

If you have article ideas or comments, write to us or call the office at extension 1580. And, excepting a spring break lull, look for *The Westerner* twice a month from now on. ❑

What Students at WNEC Want

When it comes to WNEC activities the students are the main focus. What exactly interests the student body? In a recent poll I conducted. I searched for what students want to do when they throw down their books to have fun. Several ideas were given and all seem to be considerable possibilities.

Sarah Fudge, a full time student, suggested that bands should play on campus. Nadine Gravel, a freshman, said more informal dances would be nice. One of the more unique ideas I encountered was from Spencer Griffin. He said," We should have a flea market cause I like cheap stuff." No matter what the idea, it should definitely be considered.

Perhaps a suggestion box is needed somewhere where it would be accessible to students. To my knowledge there is presently not a suggestion box. If one exists, it is not as obvious as it could be. Hopefully students would respond if given such an item.

Several students have excellent ideas. From the showing of certain movies to particular trips, those who care to contribute such ideas should be heard.

CAB has certainly done an excellent job in providing activities. Casino Nights, movies in Sleith 100, and many other activities have provided hours of quality fun and excitement for WNEC students.

In my experience here, activities seem to occur frequently and vary in demeanor. There seems to be something for almost every taste. I just feel most students are not aware how to voice their ideas. Those who know who to talk to are often too embarrassed to perform such a task

Many questions are raised when it comes to what activities to offer. What will students find amusing? How many students will attend? Does this activity meet campus guidelines? With the union of both CAB and students, activities will be even more successful. ❑

Brian McIntyre

What Do You Think?

This is a new column that will hopefully begin to appear in each issue of The Westerner. *Please submit your responses to the Student Publications Office, or e-mail them to westedit@hotmail.com. Submissions must include your name and a phone number where you can be reached. Your phone number will not be published, but your article will not be published if no phone number accompanies it.*

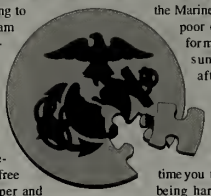
Massachusetts has recently become the 48th state to legalize the collection of DNA of people already convicted of crimes in hopes of solving crimes that currently remain unsolved. Thus far, 1200 samples have been taken with the help of a $172,000 federal grant. The samples have yet to be analyzed, because the state is awaiting approval of another $2 million grant to complete the analysis.

Recently, six prisoners sued the state for the right to not have their blood taken. A state judge has frozen the collection of DNA in response, and four of the six prisoners have gone on tn challenge the constitutionality of the law that allows the state to collect DNA. The law does not clarify whose DNA may be collected among prisoners.

Should the state be allowed to continue collecting DNA samples, even if the $2 million grant is not approved? Should the state have been allowed to collect DNA samples from prisoners in the first place? Should the state be allowed to collect DNA from only prisoners convicted of certain crimes? What do you think?

The Marines Really Aren't All That Bad

On my way out to the bus stop not too long ago two Marines in a red sports car stopped me and tried to get me to join up. After brushing them off with a poor excuse for the umpteenth time in the last four years, they went away, disappointed as all the other officers that had ever approached me. As I got on the bus, I realized something. No, I'm not going to run off and join the Marines now, but I am no longer going to shrug them off if I am approached. I actually have a good excuse for not joining.



As a journalist, I am a believer in and a user of free thought. The freedom to have that free thought put on paper and distributed is a right guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America. Deal with me here. This is very likely the first truly patriotic thought I've ever had in my entire life.

The Marines, along with the other branches of the U.S. Armed Forces, are an organization that does not allow an awful lot of free expression within the confines of the organization. However, one of the main functions of the Marines is to physically defend not only the people of the U. S., but also the Constitution. They comprise an organization that fights for my right to think. What a great group of people!

I have never really been one for conformity, and have definitely never been one for discipline, so the Marines would be a poor career choice for me. But on one sunny Tuesday afternoon, I learned to appreciate them.

So, remember, next time you think you are being harassed by the Armed Forces, that they just won't leave you alone, remember that they are not your enemies. The people of the Armed Forces put their lives on the line for you to be able to have the freedoms guaranteed you by the U.S. Constitution. Rather than brush them off angrily, thank them, and explain that it simply is not your thing. ❑

Josh Sheer

How Good We Have It

I just wanted to remind the student body about how good we have it at WNEC. WNEC is indeed lovely. There are so many students out there who think we have it so bad, and that college life here sucks. I hear complaints that our food is gross, our dorms are too small, that there is no parking in Gateway, the RAs are too strict, Gateway is too long of a walk ... puh-lease!

I bet that none of these complainers have been to see what it is like at uther campuses. Try UConn; the dorms are old and delapidated, the showers are a death wish, and I cannot even try their food because I get sick from the stench of it.

UMass has dorms with the scariest elevators in North America, and if you think Gateway is a far walk, try class about a mile away.

How about the social life at Baypath? At least we're a co-ed school!

I will not even start about the Residence Hall Staff at other schools. I appreciate the role our RAs play and that they take their jobs here reasonably seriously, and not as power trips.

Face it, people: we have it made. Our dorms, bathrooms and other facilities are new, clean and spacious. Gateway is terrific. This campus is absolutely beautiful in the fall and spring. There is actually a pretty decent variety of foods to choose from. Our professors are duwn to earth and accessible. There is always something going on or something to get involved with, such as one of our many clubs. WNEC is luxurious and truly exquisite. ❑

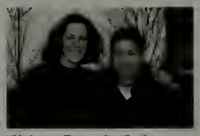
Nicole Pizzuti

Do you want your opinion heard? Everyone is encouraged to submit columns and letters to the Editorial & Opinion section. Drop your contributions off at the Student Publications Office or e-mail westedit@hotmail.com.

Pre-1986 Western New England College had a bar on campus. Rumor has it that faculty, staff and students had a chunce to mingle at this establishment.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ed Students:

Should there be a bar on campus again?



Kristen Drapala (Left):
It would be good to eliminate drunk driving and create another social hangout on campus.

Kristy Lewis (Right):
It would bring students and faculty closer together but I don't think that's the kind of relationship you want between them.

Judy St. Germain (Left):
I think it is a good idea as long as there is no underage drinking. That is a major problem. A good example would be the inauguration: everybody had a good time.

Brandy Fillmore (Right):
It would personalize relationships between faculty, staff, and students. It would allow us to get to know professors on a social basis.

Pat Pons:
Oh, yes, start it again! I think a bar/ hangout would keep people on campus on the weekends.

Brenda Trodler:
Everyone is an alcoholic already. I don't think we need another place that condones drinking.

Jarrett Thomas (Left):
Sure, it will help prevent drinking and driving. People will not have to drive out to the bar to drink...safety factor!

Charlie Beyer (Right):
This would bring students closer to faculty. They can sit down and have a beer with their professor, bring better social relations. This will make it easier to approach professors.

Greg Morse: I have seen bars on uther campuses and they work out fine. I definitely think it would be a good idea.

Marika Kyranos:
There is a better chance to control drinking because it is a monitored situation.

Chantel Dupuis (Left):
Sounds like a great idea for the social aspect. This is a chance for social interactiun between students and faculty that goes beyond academics.

Jake Morin (Behind):
It gets so cold walking back from Mory's during the winter. You would stay warmer with a bar un campus.

Amber Riggs (Right):
Less DUIs and more student interaction.

Arts & Entertainment

February 20, 1998

Pearl Jam Refuses to *Yield*

by Tom Rund, Jr.

On February 3, 1998, the largest modern rock group in America, Seattle's Pearl Jam, began to sell what was to be their fifth album, titled "Yield." This extremely anticipated arrival of new material actually made headlines before its date of release when songs from the project were

illegally aired on Thanksgiving break by many excited stations from all over the country.

A Syracuse student, and dedicated Pearl Jam fan, decided to take advantage of this leak by recording the songs that were being aired on the radio and converting them to his computer. He then gave all fans with access to the Internet a chance to sample the new tracks in their entirety over an MP3 format. The "Yield" section of this student's web site was shut down after a cease and desist order was issued by Pearl Jam's record label, Epic.

Epic has yet to issue a statement as to whether or not they will attempt to stop these MP3 sites from distributing their music early and for free. There is the possibility that the massive record company will decide to accept the current situation and just enjoy the advantage of extra publicity for the album.

As of now, "Yield" has been released and is doing quite well. It sat on the number one spot for overall record sales on its first week. "Yield" brings back strong impressions of the bands most known, debute album: "Ten." Songs like "In Hiding," "Given to Fly," and "Do the Evolution" will surely make their mark both on the radio and in dedicated fans' collections for years to come.

Eddie Vedder and the band have proved that they are far from done with their consistent annual releases of quality records. Although "Yield" is not "Ten", what it could be described as is one of Pearl Jams best sounding albums to date. Every track is worth listening to repeatedly.

As a dedicated Pearl Jam fan I refuse to take my CD and play it "in hiding." "Yield" is a success because Pearl Jam is still a hard-rocking band. The music is beyond my standards of great, and I could not handle the task of imagining an album this exciting. I have nothing left to do but listen. This one was given to fly. ❑

StageWest Breaks Its Legs — Both of Them

(And That's a Good Thing)

by Wayne Barr

"College professors have feelings too!"

So exclaims Lou Graziano (Jesse Doran), who is trying to persuade his mobster partner, Mike Francisco (William Verderber), to invest in an existential murder-mystery play written by the just-slightly pretentious professor Terence O'Keefe, in StageWest's fifth mainstage production of the 1997/1998 season, "Breaking Legs."

The comedy partly works off stereotypes — the idea of professors as restless pedants obsessed with artistic purity; the idea of Italians as Mafioso-restaurant owners with rigid, self-contradictory codes of punishment and respect. Tom Dulack's play is not meant to comment upon the social classes its characters occupy, however. Its comedy functions by straightforward juxtaposition — hilarity by contrasts and opposites.

Marisa Redanty plays Angie Graziano, a beautiful but rapidly aging young woman who manages her father Lou's restaurant. Terence O'Keefe, played by Michael Patterson, is a professor seeking financial backing for his play. Angie, it turns out, was Terence's student before leaving college for the economic security of the restaurant; their previous teacher-student relationship, we learn, had vaguely sensual overtones.

The play, then, is partly a love story as Terence overcomes his academic inhibitions to be with Angie. The bulk of the play, however, is the presentation of Terence's own play to Angie's father and his associates, Francisco and Tino De Felice (Tim Barrett). The Italian trios' incredulity as Terence explains the artistic and academic world of writing and theater, and Terence's own incredulity at their reaction, produces moments of rare comedy, as when Verderber's antagonizing, barrel-voiced Francisco grills Terence for "invading" the "territory" of other influential playwrights.

As Terence and the mobsters discuss his play, Frankie Salvucci (Ray Iannicelli) enters — a short,

Marisa Redantry as Angie Graziano and Michael Patterson as Terence O'Keefe in Tom Dulack's "Breaking Legs"

affable loser who apparently owes Lou Graziano, Francisco, and De Felice some money. Terence knows — as well as the audience — what is going to happen: these are stereotypes, after all. As the mobsters follow Salvucci outside, Angie reassures Terence that everything is perfectly normal, and the first act ends with an outrageous combination of sexual foot massage and murder — one imagines how Terence, in his element, would treat the scene academically.

The play resolves itself slowly and easily — Dulack's second act is full of comedic, pseudo-intellectual irony: the mobsters who are insensitive to their own violence are horrified with Terence's play. There are post-modern, self-referential moments, too, as when Angie tells Terence that she hates plays which take place in one room — the set of "Breaking Legs" being, of course, a one-room set.

But if the play works for its intellectual asides, its quiet swipes at the academe, and its more obvious moments of juxtaposition, it also works by the grace of its actors. Verderber's Mike Francisco is loud, abrasive, unpredictable; Barrett's Tino De Felice is mostly monosyllabic, expertly filling in words with precision and near-perfect timing when the other characters cannot finish their own sentences; Patterson's Terence O'Keefe's unintentional academic monologues are delivered with such practiced fluency that students in the audience will hear the academic catch-phrases uttered so often in English college courses.

Doran's Lou Graziano flubbed a few lines on opening night's performance, but was otherwise excellent as Angie's cigar-smoking, patriarchal father-mobster; Redanty's Angie Graziano had perhaps the most difficult part — at least physically — but seduced her professor convincingly.

It is perhaps a shame that Ray Iannicelli's small performance was marred by a decidedly unfunny ethnic joke — a fault of the script, not the actor. That the play otherwise sustained the audience's laughter is a testimony to a fine ensemble of actors and an otherwise calculated and well-written script.

What is the "effect" of the play? Ultimately, "Breaking Legs" should probably not suffer the same sort of exegesis its professor-character would likely give it; it suffices simply to call it fine comedy, a formulaic confrontation of opposites that works exceedingly, pleasingly well. ❑

Performance Days/Times:
Evenings: Tues., Wed., Thur., and Sat. at 7:30pm; Friday and Saturday at 8:00pm
Matinees: Wed., February 18 at 2:00pm; Sundays, February 15, 22, and March 1, 8 at 2:00pm; Saturday, March 7
For more information, call the Box Office at (413) 781-2340.

Benny and the Jets

by Nicole Pizzuti

Searching for something a bit different this past weekend, my friends and I heard about a concert at Bay Path College. Benny and the Jets, an Elton John tribute band, was playing for free with a college ID.

So we packed everyone into the station wagon and zipped on over to a place we had never been. We had to laugh as we drove up to Blake Dining Hall. The lack of people made us compare the event to a WNEC-happening. We were certainly tempted to drive away, but we all decided to be a little brave and go in.

No one seemed to care that we were from WNEC as we showed our IDs and took a seat by the stage.

The small crowd made a sad attempt at shouting when "Elton" finally came out, dressed in a glittery black jacket, pants, and trademark hat. His first few selections were upbeat and fun, yet very long. He did a costume change while the band rocked out some Led Zeppelin. "Elton" returned in purple pants and a white jacket to sing a few slow songs, like "The Way You Look Tonight" and "Daniel."

The show started to get wild when several Bay Path students started to dance in front of the stage to "Saturday Night," and with each other during the slow songs.

Overall, this was a quality show. There was a huge set up with a lot of lights and pizzazz. Surprisingly, the performer sounded quite similar to Elton John and actually looked like him, although the energy was definitely not there.

If this was because of the crowd or the show itself, I am unsure. The atmosphere just was not right. Except for the five or six girls dancing, the rest of the crowd was stuffy and acted as if they were waiting for an opera to begin. It seemed as if the few students from WNEC that were there had a better time than all of the Bay Path students combined. ❑

The WB is "Screaming" for a Hit Show

by David O'Quinn

Kevin Williamson, screenwriter who penned *Scream, Scream 2,* and *I Know What You Did Last Summer*, has come up with a new series for the WB network.

It's called *Dawson's Creek.*

It is set in the fictional town of Capeside, Massachusetts, and deals with the lives of four friends. Its main character, Dawson, is a Steven Spielberg wannabe who, through experiencing love for the first time with new neighbor and New York native Jenny, sets off a rippling effect that involves his best friends.

His best gal pal "Jo" (short for Josephine) is starting to fall in love with him after their 15-year friendship enters its adolescent years. She becomes very jealous of Jenny and tries her best to discourage them both from pursuing the relationship.

Dawson's guy pal Pacey is also his co-worker at the movie store in town. Pacey is the guy who can bring out the side of Dawson that Jo doesn't understand: the guy in him.

The premiere episode started things off very well: we learn that Dawson is going to be a filmmaker; his mom may or may not be having an affair with her co-anchor (his mom is a TV news anchor); and Pacey has an attraction towards his teacher.

Already the series has been getting flak from parents concerned that the show is too racy for their children, which is odd considering the lack of any squabbling from parents over having *Melrose Place* or *Beverly Hills, 90210* on at 8 pm.

Is a show about 15-year-olds discussing sex inappropriate at 8pm, but another show featuring 20 and 30-somethings bed-hopping appropriate at 8pm? Are you as confused as I am?

Yes, the series does talk very openly about sex, masturbation, and everything else they feel and do. But this is life. There are 15-year-olds now smoking, having sex, and doing drugs. If anything, this show could help parents understand what their kids are thinking.

The dialogue, like Williamson's previous work, is dead-on. The show is so cutting edge; how anyone could not like it is beyond me (its title song is "I Don't Want To Wait" by Grammy nominee Paula Cole).

Why watch the show?

Well, when *Grease* was released in the 70's, Baby Boomers and Teeny Boopers were taken in by this movie which was set in the 50's. It gave every generation a chance to see what life was like back then.

If all teens had to worry about these days consisted of dances and friendships, this would be a happier place. But the reality is that is not all they must worry about. When I sit and watch the show, I can see myself hanging with my friends and talking to them much like the way these characters do.

This show makes all of the previous "teen dramas," such as *90210* and *The Wonder Years,* look stale and boring. With the exception of *My So-Colled Life* and *Party of Five*, there hasn't been a show that captures the real moments of teen angst and hormones. This show is pure nostalgia. ❑

~ Movie Matching ~

Qunte:

1. "You're Abe Froman, the sausage king of Chicago?"
2. -"Hey Doc, we better back up. We don't have enough road to get up to 88."
   -"Roads? Where we're going we don't need roads."
3. "Let's get high and I'll iron the chick's hair."
4. "My Jumbo Jet! Smashing baby!"
5. "What do you think of Rollergirl?"
6. "It's Mega Maid, sir. She's gone from suck to blow!"
7. "I must kill Pap Smear.
   I must kill Pap Smear."
8. "Sir, you have always been the caretaker."
9. "You'll be at K-mart selling yarn balls."
10. "Get off my plane."
11. "Pardon me, are you the singing bush?"

Movie:

a- Spaceballs
b- The Naked Gun
c- Austin Powers
d- Air Force One
e- The Three Amigos
f- Boogie Nights
g- Hairspray
h- Ferris Buller's Day Off
i- Back to the Future
j- The Shining
k- Troop Beverly Hills

1-h, 2-i, 3-g, 4-c, 5-f, 6-a, 7-b, 8-j, 9-k, 10-d, 11-e

God Lives Underwater?

"We tried to make an organic-style record, but all electronic," God Lives Underwater's Jeff Turzo says of their 1500/A&M debt album "Life In the So-Called Space Age." "That's what we're about. We made the whole record in our bedroom. I would liken us more to Radiohead or David Bowie or Pink Floyd than any other techno band. We just use the same tools as techno bands."

While Jeff and David don't consider themselves part of the techno scene, they look at hardware-generated music not as "a genre of its own, but another level of music altogether," explains CO-founder/frontman David Reily. "There are still guitars on this record, but not like our other albums."

God Lives Underwater started out in rural Perkiomenville, Penn. and then moved to Los Angeles. GLU have previously released a self-titled EP 1994 which originally was their demo and followed it up with the full-length *Empty* which featured the track "No More Love."

With "Life In The So-Called Space Age" (produced by GLU themselves and Gary Dobbins) the band holds true to their roots, while stretching further into experimental territory.

The first single, "From Your Mouth" is an excellent example of how GLU writes songs by deconstructing standard pop notions than reconstructing them in their signature manner.

Live, the band has already criss-crossed the country a dozen times opening for everyone from the Sextasy Ball tour with Lords of Acid and My Life With The Thrill Kill Kult ("it brought out the deviants in every city" says Jeff, clearly meaning this as a good thing) to KMFDM, Spacebog, Filter and Korn.

With "Life In The So-Called Space Age," God Lives Underwater are ready to embark on the next stage. Taking them to places familiar and unfamiliar; worldly yet not of this world. Tune in. Turn on. Blast off. ❑

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* Souvenir cups available for purchase at Bar for $2 each.

Pearl Street Night Club
Upcoming Concert Events

Feb. 20	Itchy Fish	9:00pm. (18+)
Feb. 21	Springheeled Jack	7:00pm (all ages)
Feb. 21	Letters to Cleo	9:00pm (18+)
Feb. 26	Mary's First	9:00pm (18+)
Feb. 27	Lobsters from Marz	9:00pm (18+)
Feb. 28	Debbie Davis	8:30p.m (21+)
Mar. 6	Tree (Hate Machine)	7:00pm (all ages)

For tickets in advance call 413-584-7771, or The Tick at, 1-800-THE-TICK, or Strawberries Record Stores.

Sports

February 20, 1998

Coast Guard Cruises Over Golden Bears

Coach Bishop Raises Eyebrows

by Ryan O'Connor
Sports Writer

Despite the dismal Men's basketball season, the Golden Bears have given 100% every game. On February 7, the Coast Guard Bears came into town and beat WNEC 99-82.

Although WNEC's record is 1-16, the team has fought hard against tough teams such as Springfield College, but was just beat out in the second half. One reason the basketball team has not had much success is because of the coaching style of Coach Bishop.

Bishop, who is known as an aggressive coach, plays most his of athletes throughout the game. A perfect example of his style is demonstrated whenever WNEC is down by a few points — Bishop will take players who have the "hot hand," or the experience of playing in tight games, and substitute them with fresh bodies.

In Saturday's game against Coast Guard, sophomore Tom Keane scored 18 points, Ryan Abraham had 14, and Eric Stewart led the Golden Bears with 20 points. Freshman Ken Payette from Woonsocket, RI poured in a solid 16 points.

One question to be asked is this: why did sophomore forward Ryan Manning play only three minutes the whole game?

Also, there has been a change in the starting lineup. Keane, who last year was rookie of the year in the Constitution Athletic Conference as a point guard, has been switched to the shooting guard this year. There has been a significant amount of speculation among the fans and players about Bishop's decisions during crucial times of close games.

One good aspect of this year's basketball team is that it is very young, with a lot of potential. In the next couple of years, the Golden Bears should improve on the court and in the record column. Freshman stars such as Tim Stack, Eric Stewart, Rob Nieves, and Ken Payette have proved that they can compete in this conference. It's just going to take time before this team can rebuild and reload. The Golden Bears have six games remaining, and three of them are at home, so WNEC fans don't give up — show your support. ❑

Sports Writers Wanted

Do you like sports? Do you always turn to the sports section of the paper first? Have you ever thought of a career in sports journalism?

If so, consider joining *The Westerner* staff as a sports writer! Interview key players, coaches, and fans. Speculate on the outcome of the season; criticize coaching stategies, analyze key plays! Call *The Westerner* office at extension 1580 if you are interested! ❑

Men's Lacrosse:

Back for Another Winning Season

by Regina Neto

With a record of 9-5 last season, the men's lacrosse team at Western New England College is one of the most successful teams on this campus. Attendance at games consists of much of the college community. This year looks as promising as past seasons.

The returning players who hope to lead the team to another winning season include captains Dave Driscol, Frank Wells and PJ Wicker. Wicker led the team last season with 40 goals and 26 assists and was elected to the First Team All Pilgrim League.

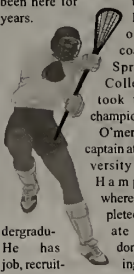
The attack will consist of Dave Driscol, PJ Wicker and Tom Nolan among others. The midfield players are Paul Boudreau, Nick Evans, Brian Salemo, Jim Margitan, Ricky Culver and Greg Houle. Defense includes Frank Wells, Ted Kopacz, Aaron Garner, Mike Novac and Scott Magner.

New players starting this year but looking promising include goalie Rory Groh and defensemen Matt Musumeci, Jeff Natale, Gianleo Duca, Jim Wojtowitz and Frank Finochio. Ben Drude, CJ Frost and Tang Vu will be playing midfield.

This season should be a competitive one. Western New England College will be playing against teams that are ranked in the top 20. The biggest rival is Eastern Connecticut, whom they lost to in the Pilgrim League finals last year.

Coach O'meara stated, "We are a young team. It's a matter of how we handle it. We know we can do it. We will be challenged in most of the games. We need to work on our transition game versus Eastern Connecticut. You have to bet big to win big!"

The team couldn't be this successful without the help of head coach Tim O'mera. He is the returning coach for WNEC and has been here for two years. He previously coached at Springfield College and took them to championships. O'mera was the captain at the University of New Hampshire where he completed his undergraduate degree. He has done a great job, recruiting 17 new freshman onto the team, and is in the process of bringing men's lacrosse to a higher, more competitive level. He is the head coach for the East-West game, which includes players from the entire New England area: divisions I, II and III.



O'mera had a lot to say about specific players on his team. "I predict Scott Magner will be all league defenseman and all New England defenseman before he graduates. Paul Boudreau is making a great transition to midfield along with Jim Margitan. Tom Nolan has as good as stick skills as anyone at any level, any division. The defense is going to win our games for us. These players include Frank Finochio, Ted Kopacz, Frank Wells, Jim Wojtowitz and Ginleo Duca. Mike Novac has elevated his game and offensively we are relying on Driscol, Wicker, Boudreau, Margitan, and Houle. The all-important short stick midfield players include Ricky Culver, Ben Drude and Tang Vu."

Darin Adams is the assistant coach and has also brought this team far. He has done a great job, with his main focus being conditioning during the off season. Adams is dedicated and the team is happy to have him.

Dave Driscol explained how he felt about this upcoming season: "So far this year our team has come together really well both on and off the field. Everyone is really enthusiastic about getting the season started and having a good one. And I predict a winning season for the men's lacrosse team as always."

Frank Wells stated, "I think we'll do well because we have a lot of depth and a lot of new people who are going to make an impact right away." These are encouraging words for the men's lacrosse team.

The men play on the lacrosse field, which also serves as the football field. Their first game is a tournament at Springfield College on March 1. Go and show your support for the men's — and the women's — lacrosse teams this season! ❑

Bowling Tournament Update

Bowling in the 10th Annual Mardi-Bob Collegiate Invitational, held in Poughkeepsie, NY on Saturday, January 31, the WNEC women's team came in sixth and the men's team seventh and tenth.

In an eight-team field with both community colleges and four-year colleges — including some of the strongest women's teams in the country — the young and improving WNEC women were led by team co-captain Jamie Barras, who had a high game of 202 and a six-game total of 1029. Joanne Krivak had a 519 series in the singles event.

The men, bowling in a 13-team field — including three nationally ranked teams — rolled totals of 5744 and 5630 in six games. The A Team was led by freshman Kurt Clark with a 626 series in singles, and freshman David Mastropasqua with a 611 in the doubles event. Sophomore Jeff Freyermuth led the B team with a 607 in singles. Freshman Ethan Lowry had a 615 series in doubles — including a 278 game.

On Sunday, February 1, in the 4th Annual SCCC Collegiate Invitational Tournament held at Boulevard Bowl, Schenectady, NY, the men finished in seventh and eleventh place. The women finished in fifth place.

The scores ran higher in this event. The men's A Team had 6249 at the end of the standard six games, led by co-captain Pete Fowler's 641 and 699 series for a six-game total of 1340. Paul Nuzzo and David Mastropasqua scored 658 and 656 respectively in the singles event.

The top scorers on the B Team were sophomore Jeff Freyermuth with a 614 series (including a 257 game), and junior Beau Highfill with a 612 series.

The first team had a 245 game in the Baker format and a second team had a 233. Unfortunately, those were the only Baker games of note — the teams tired in this final tournament segment, and the scores dropped.

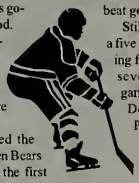
The WNEC women were again led by Barras with a 494 and 541 series, including a high game of 234. Freshman Kim Hnyda and sophomore Joanne Krivak had a 470 and 460 series, respectively, in the singles event.

Anyone wanting more complete details of these two tournaments can locate the full standings and individual accomplishments on the internet at www.collegebowling.com. ❑

Sacred Heart's Five-Goal Barrage Ices Western New England College

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

It appeared that WNEC hockey was on their way to victory. The Golden Bears had a 3-1 lead over the Sacred Heart Pioneers going into the second period. However, five consecutive goals shunned the Golden Bears as Sacred Heart "pioneered" their way to victory by a score of 6-3.



Ryan Haubner started the scoring for the 5-7 Golden Bears with a goal at 18:34 of the first period. Sacred Heart, now 10-7 evened the score with a tally by Brent Piepenbring at 4:11 of the same period. Clay Strachan put WNEC back on top 2-1 with a goal at 5:25 of the second period. The Golden Bears had a two-goal cousin at 2:19 of the second period after Dave McKenna's shot beat goalie Alexis Binet.

Still, Sacred Heart had a five goal onslaught, scoring four goals in the final seven minutes of the game. Tim Logan, Billy Demedriates, Brent Piepenbring, and Gilbert Lefort scored respectively for Sacred Heart in the final period of play. ❑

	Period 1	Period 2	Period 3	Total
Sacred Heart (10-7-0)	1	1	4	6
WNEC (5-7-0)	1	2	0	3

First Period Scoring: WNEC: Ryan Haubner (Chris Laramee, Kyle Weise) 18:34. SH: Brent Piepenbring (Jason Scanlan) 4:11. Penalties: WNEC-0; SH-3

Second Period Scoring: SH: Jason Scanlan, ppg. (Billy Demedriates, Tom La Pointe) 6:07. WNEC: Clay Strachan (Andy Kaneris) 5:25; Dave McKenna (Jason Lacroix, Mike Soderlund) 2:19. Penalties: WNEC-1; SH-1

Third Period Scoring: SH: Tim Logan (Brent Piepenbring, Jason Scanlan) 18:18; Billy Demetriades (Eric Drake, Paul Adimando) 18:01; Brent Piepenbring (James Heffernan, Jason Scanlan) 12:58; Gilbert Lefort (Paul Adimando, Billy Demedriates) 12:26. Penalties- WNEC-5; SH-4

Goalies: WNEC: Adam Hoban (30 shots, 24 saves); SH: Alexis Binet (30 shots, 27 saves)

Power Play: WNEC 0-5; SH 1-2

Ice Hockey Schedule
Remaining Season

Sat., Feb. 21	Villanova University	A	8:00pm
Sun., Feb. 22	Villanova University	A	5:00pm
Thurs., Feb. 26	Skidmore College	H	5:45pm
Sat., Feb. 28	Sacred Heart University	A	7:30pm

1998 Lacrosse Schedule

March 7, Saturday	Virginia Wesleyan	A	4:00pm
March 11, Wednesday	Pfeiffer College	A	3:30pm
March 14, Saturday	Wingate University	A	2:00pm
March 26 Thursday	Wheaton College	A	4:00pm
March 28 Saturday	Mass. Maritime Acad.	H	1:00pm
March 31 Tuesday	Nichols College	H	3:30pm
April 2 Thursday	Curry College	H	4:00pm
April 4 Saturday	Norwich University	A	1:00pm
April 6 Monday	Gordon College	H	3:30pm
April 11 Saturday	Mass. Inst. of Tech.	A	11:00am
April 16 Thursday	Eastern CT State Univ.	H	4:00pm
April 18 Saturday	Clark University	A	1:00pm
April 19 Sunday	Univ. of New England	H	1:00pm
April 28 Tuesday	Babson College	H	3:30pm
April 30 Thursday	Univ. of Mass. — Boston	H	4:00pm

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Expires 3/6/98. Not valid with any other offers. Valid only at participating locations. Customer pays all sales tax. Additional toppings extra.

Party Special
1 Large Works & 1 large 2 topping
Only 15.95
Expires 3/6/98. Not valid with any other offers. Valid only at participating locations. Customer pays all sales tax. Additional toppings extra.

Papa's Choice
1 Large with up to 5 toppings
Only 9.95
Expires 3/6/98. Not valid with any other offers. Valid only at participating locations. Customer pays all sales tax. Additional toppings extra.

Golden Bear Classifieds

Announcements

2/20, Friday's. Dance Performance. Sponsored by U&ME/ CAB.

2/21, Quarterly Meeting of Parents Association.

2/22, *Jasiri*, Urban Poetry Music.

2/23, Movie: *Rosewood*. Sponsored by CAB.

2/24, Open-Mic Poetry Reading. People's Place, 8:00PM. Sponsored by The Review of Art & Literature.

2/25, Closing of In-Progress (100-level) grades to SAS.

2/26, Ebony Food Fest. 6:00PM, Dining Room B. Sponsored by U& ME.

2/27, Friday's. Sponsored by the SENIOR class.

2/28, Open House.

3/2 - 3/6, National College Health and Fitness Week.

3/2, *Musical Ladies*. 7PM.

Announcements

The Countdown Continues...

If you are planning to submit to *The Review of Art & Literature* you better do it soon!

Time is ticking away!

The Review now has a new size, new style,and new layout. Don't you want to be payed for your artwork? Don't you think it would be nice to finally be published? Don't you think it's time for you to become part of the action?

Make your way to the Student Publications Office today!

3/5, PA Decisions.

3/6, RA Decisions.

3/6, Housing Closes @ 7:00PM.

Announcements

Lost & Found

FOUND

Female clothing found in plastic bag in D'Amour Library in December: Green/ Brown sweater, green jeans, white shirt, socks and a pair of boots. Please come to the Circulation Desk to claim. Must be able to describe boots.

Meet

Mayor Michael Albano

He will be speaking in Sleith-100 Tuesday, March 3rd @ 1:00 PM.

Sponsored by:
Aloha Kappa Psi
Management Association
Marketing Association

Western New England CollegePresents The

Ebony Food Fest

Thursday
February 26
6:00 PM

Dining Room B

*Students w/ meal plans, $3

*Students w/o, $5

*Others, $8

*At door, $10

For more info contact your RA or call 782-1594. Sponsored by U&ME.

For Sale

Snake For Sale

Ball-Python, 3 1/2 Feet, well tamed. Comes with: heating pad, heat lamp, watering rock, tank. $90 for everything, or best offer. Call: 782-7907. Ask for Amy Giroux.

Last Chance for $50!!!

If you were sent the CORE Alcohol and Drung Survey (on 2/9/98), you are part of a lucky group chosen by random selection. The office of Alcohol and Drug Education is seeking accurate information about WNEC students and alcohol and drug use to help with designing the new program The survey takes only about 15 - 20 minutes to complete. It is designed so **YOUR ANSWERS ARE ANONYMOUS**. Those students who fill out the survey and return the postcard (indicating the survey was sent), will be entered in a drawing for a $50 gift certificate at teh Holyoke Mall. **SEND IN YOUR SURVEY TODAY!!** The deadline in March 5th! Get yours in now! Call Lore Detenber at Alcohol and Drug Education Services if you have an questions x1360.

Jobs

EARN
$750 - $1500/ WEEK

Raise all the money your student group needs by sponsoring a **VISA Fundraiser** on your campus. No investment & very little time needed. There's no obligation, so why not call for information today.

Call 1-800-323-8454 x95

3/2, March Madness Nutrition Program.

3/2, Senate Petitions Due.

3/3, YOGA.

3/4, CAB Comedy.

3/4, Flee to Florida Ends.

3/7 - 3/15, Spring Break Recess.

3/8 - 3/13, Spring Break Ski Trip to Killington.

3/15, Residence Halls Open: 1PM.

Advertise Here!
We want your business!
You need us! We're your link to WNEC.
Call 782-1580.

Make-A-Wish, Buy a Fish!

Tuesday, March 3rd, the Marketing Association will be selling a complete package of a 1/2 gallon fish bowl, gravel, fish food, and a gold fish for $5.00.

All profits will be donated to Make-A-Wish Foundation for children with life threatening illnesses.

You can make an order from the mall area tables on 3/12 from 11:00 - 1:00 and on 3/13 from 11:00 - 2:00. You can also make an order from a Marketing Association Member.

For more information please contact Dave @ 796-4345.

Steve Conuel performs at the Open Mic Coffee House — see page 11

Continuous Campus Coverage Since 1935

March 20, 1998

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 43 / Issue 9

Crosswalk Roadkill

A Student Survey

by Janna Graham, Paul Nuzzo, Rachal Willard, and Susan Zaraya

Can you think of how many times you've almost been hit using the crosswalks on campus?

Well, more than half of the 40 Gateway residents we surveyed have come close to becoming roadkill.

Students are becoming increasingly wary of the problems associated with the crosswalks, especially because of the recent accident that occurred.

The Incident

On the night of December 3, 1997, at 5:45pm, Rich Sells, a freshman here at Western New England College, was crossing Wilbraham Road and was hit by a car.

Sells was walking to work when a Caravan, driven by a 72 year-old man, did not stop while he was crossing at the Emerson Hall crosswalk. He looked to his left; there were no cars coming. He saw the Caravan coming from the right, but thought that it was slowing down.

Sells proceeded to cross the street, and the Caravan hit him. He rolled to the windshield and was then deflected and thrown into the air and onto the street.

Sells did not feel the impact or

See CROSSWALK, page 3

Mayor Speaks About Economic Development

Albano Looks to Private Sector for Revitalization of Springfield

by Wayna Barr
Editor

On March 3rd, at 12:30pm, students and faculty members came to Sleith 100 to hear Springfield Mayor Micheal Albano speak about managerial problems with the city of Springfield, economic development, and job availablity.

Those in attendance waited 40 minutes for the mayor, who arrived finally at 1:10.

Despite the scheduling mishap, most waited to hear Albano speak.

Albano directed his remarks at the development of a city and "how to bring back a city." According to Albano, he faced a $25 million deficit when he came into office. Springfield was losing people, population, and business, he said.

"When you're looking at how to develop a mid-sized city like Springfield, you must consider your strengths and your weaknesses," he said. "We didn't have a strategy."

The mayor has since then developed a much-touted "strategy" which he emphasized for the duration of his speech: riverfront development centered around the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Such development, according to Albano, would create "an area to draw people to that facility for shopping and spending money, and of course of going to the Basketball Hall of Fame."

According to Albano, the Basketball Hall of Fame can look forward to NBA endorsements within the "next few years" which will help attract tourism.

Albano also reiterated his wish to see professional baseball in Springfield, using the Falcons to illustrate the success of sport revenue in Springfield.

Mayor Mike Albano speaks to faculty members and students about Springfield's current economic situation.

"If we lost the Falcons [the city] would lose 15 million dollars a year," he said.

He also said that Springfield is "still in touch" with the Patriots regarding efforts to draw them to Springfield.

These developments are part of what Albano envisions as a move to "redefine our local economy and get away from a textile-based ... to a tourist-based."

To finance this strategy, Albano said the city must look to the private sector. The reduction of taxes on the state level allows businesses to remain competitive, which is "a major departure from what has been going on in Springfield," he said.

"It's important that we prioritize and get the biggest bang for the buck when we think about economic development," he said.

To attract private investors, Albano said there would be issued tax-exempt bonds to corporate entities, such as SIS and Peter Pan.

Albano said he didn't think such privatization would "take away from local businesses."

The mayor also talked about other investments in the smaller commercial districts and programs created by his administration.

"The highlight of my administration so far has been the first-time homeowner program," he said, adding that approximately 500 people have "taken advantage of the program."

Encouraging people to own homes will stabilize neighborhoods and commercial districts, Albano said.

As for the non-riverfront downtown district, Albano claimed that the era of "big malls" and retail stores is over, while office and business space becomes more prominent. This is "a good mix,"

See MAYOR, page 2

Sociology Course Takes Students to the Mayan World

From May 11 to May 22, as many as 15 students will take a 12-day course called "Sociology 393: An Introduction to the Mayan World."

The students, under the instruction of Dr. Richard Luxton and Denise Gosselin, will, according to the course description, spend "10 days in the Yucatan on a tour of the Mayan world."

View from the Sacred Ball-Court at Uxmal — Yucatan (photo by R. Luxton, 1998)

Students will explore archaeological sites, caves and alters, colonial churches, towns, cities, native markets, and the Caribbean coast.

They will also be encouraged to interact with south Mexican culture, try local foods, and communicate in the local language.

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NEWS

March 1998

THE WESTERNER

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The Welfare "Trade-Off"

by Wayne Barr

On March 4, at 7:00pm, in Sleith 100, the culminating lecture in the "Death of the Middle Class" series was delivered by Frances Fox Piven, Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Sociology at the Graduate Centre of CUNY.

Piven is also the author of "Regulating the Poor," "Why Americans Don't Vote," and many other books.

Her lecture addressed the recent changes in the welfare system, beginning with the welfare reform bill passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton a year and a half ago.

Since then, Piven observed, there has been an increase of political rhetoric about the "perverse effects of welfare on the morality of women."

According to what is widely accepted as the standard conservative argument, women on welfare receive "easy dollars" and shun wage work, and have more children to increase aid eligibility.

This logic, Piven said, categorizes women on welfare as both lazy and sexually promiscuous. "Both charges," she commented, "led to a revival movement ... to restore moral compulsion to the lives of poor women."

The traditional, liberal counter-argument, as outlined by Piven, insists that women are on welfare for only a short time, and that welfare is necessary because of poor job availability, low wages, and domestic violence.

There is in the liberal objections a "good deal of truth," Piven said, "but the argument skirted the many changes embroiled" in welfare reform.

The "Trade-Off"

Part of the embroilment is inherent in what Piven called the "trade-off" of welfare for low-wage work. "The cold logic of the new welfare policy" is that people will survive in ways judged acceptable by society — even if only by low-wage drudgery, said Piven.

"It's the logic of a greatly increased stigma of applying for and receiving welfare," she said. "For many people, there is no trade-off — there is only work."

The rising "stigma" against welfare is the reason why welfare is going down, argued Piven — even if the news media chooses to publicize stories of women who successfully got off welfare and are living lives of financial independence.

"These stories are true," admitted Piven, but "there are other 'true' stories."

If the economy falters, these other 'true' stories — stories of women pushed or prodded off welfare and living unsuccessfully despite their best efforts — will increase, she said.

> ***"Welfare is now primarily an institution to regulate morality ... it is primarily a labor market."***

The trade-off does not end there, however. According to Piven, the level of insult ascribed to welfare recipients has increased, driving more women into a low-wage work market.

"Welfare is now primarily an institution to regulate morality ... it is primarily a labor market," Piven said.

Cultural Ramifications

This stigma takes on a decidedly tangible form, particularly in the "symbols, ritual, and culture" of American society. These symbols are used to "shun what is called dependency" in favor of "any kind of work, any kind of wage," said Piven.

The degradation of those helped by society is nothing new, Piven observed. In earlier centuries there were rituals of branding social "dependents": people were put in stocks or tied up and paraded around, for the purpose of "instruction about the moral imperative of work," she said.

> ***"When people can't tangibly change their condition, they are susceptible to hate mongering and hate politics."***

Piven argued that "branding" still occurs in contemporary society, and gave as an example the New York City Workfare program.

The program requires its workers (culled from welfare programs) to wear day-glow orange vests in the streets and carry their trash cans with them. Since the program does not provide bathrooms or lockers, workers are forced to tie their lunches in plastic bags to the rim of the trash lid.

"It's not an old idea, it's a modern idea," Piven said.

Welfare recipients, who are often required to participate in such Workfare programs in exchange for benefits, are doing work that had previously been done by unionized workers, Piven said. They have no protection; if they complain, they lose the job and the benefits they once received, she added.

There are 40,000 jobs in New York City now filled with welfare recipients.

The Role of Big Business

Private institutions are also able to take advantage of the "trade-off." By hiring welfare recipients now required to work, some companies are able to pay minimum wage and receive tax breaks.

If it weren't for the new welfare paradigm, private institutions would have to raise wages by five percent, said Piven.

Another problem is the current "anomaly" of the labor market. In the current economic boom, unemployment is at its lowest, yet inflation is not rising because wages are hardly rising.

Usually, said Piven, low unemployment means low labor market, and should shift power to the workers, resulting in higher wages — but this is not happening.

The restructuring of the labor market is also inimical to welfare recipients looking for financial independence. With the proliferation of out-sourced jobs, part-time and temporary jobs, and the independent contractor, there will be less job security and no holidays or benefits for workers, Piven said.

"Worried workers don't bid for higher wages, and they don't join unions," she added.

Meanwhile, CEOs make 185 times the wages of the average workers, Piven pointed out, tracing the mobilization of big business back to the early 1970's.

Big business is "like a political party," Piven said. "They make arguments characterizing the American situation."

Although "the roll of business [in the development of the modern economy] is not immediately obvious," it can be traced, said Piven.

By developing an intellectual rhetoric to substantiate their agenda, by developing an "enormous media capacity," and by

See PIVEN, next page

MAYOR, *from page 1*

he said. "We will continue to market financial industry and to couple it with the entertainment industry."

The Civic Center will be rehabilitated, he said, and a convention center will be added in front of it. This, the mayor said, could "trigger another hotel being built" — developments he hopes to see by the year 2001.

In a question-and-answer session, Albano addressed the quality of education in Springfield. He said the schools were "turning the corner" by the administration's "investing heavily in development." There is a good connection between the schools and "the private sector," he said, pointing specifically to Mass Mutual.

When asked when the construction on I-91 would be complete, the Mayor said "October or November this year."

"It will be the last extension," he added.

The event was sponsored by the Management Association, Marketing Association, and Alpha Kappa Psi.

MAYAN, *from page 1*

The students will have to keep a Field Journal in which they record their experiences and observations, and submit a written report of 10 to 15 pages.

They will have plenty to write about. After a pre-trip orientation, students will fly to Cancun on May 12 and spend the evening in the Playa del Carmen. According to the tentative schedule, they will drive to Valladolid on May 13 to visit the archeological site of Chichen Itza and, later, Dzitnup — an underground swimming hole.

The itinerary also includes visits to the Mayan markets of Valladolid and the archeological sites of Ek Balam and Uxmal. Students will also visit the site at which the Mexican revolution of 1910 began.

There will also be time for swimming and snorkeling on the coastline and reef of the Caribbean coast, with ocean-side lodging and dining.

The trip costs $1975 if taken for college credit (three credits will be granted) and $1575 if taken for no credit.

The deadline for the paid non-refundable deposit has been extended to March 27; interested students are encouraged to sign up before all the slots are filled.

For more information, call Dr. Luxton at extension 1793.

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CROSSWALK, *from page 1*

anything at all. He was crossing the street and the next thing he knew he woke up in the hospital.

Sells is back in school now, but he has scars that will never be completely healed. He had plastic surgery on his ear and has constant pain from it. He also has marks on his face that will not be gone for almost a year.

All of this happened because a vehicle did not stop while he was crossing the road.

Crosswalk Usage

The majority of students we surveyed use the crosswalks throughout the day (8am-10pm). Of those students, the average usage ranged between five and eight times a day; some used it a many as 10.

If you want to cross safely, you're best bet would be to cross during the day, when people are likely to stop. Over 50% of students also suggest that you should cross with one or more people to increase the driver's visibility of the students. This supports the theory that there is safety in numbers. But at certain times, mainly rush hour, no matter what the group size, students found it increasingly difficult to cross.

According to our survey, 24 out of 40 students surveyed had "close calls." Of those students, 80% had those close calls at night and when they were alone.

If we were to extrapolate that data to include all 600 Gataway residents, you could conclude that 360 students could have experienced near accidents while using the crosswalk.

Safety

Presently Western New England College has two flashing yellow lights, one from each side of Wilbraham Road. Also, since 1994, barrels with warning signs and flashing lights have been placed to help improve safety.

These $100.00 barrels may seem insufficient to some, but WNEC has added these additional precautionary measures while no other area collage has. Presently Wilbraham Road and State Street are the only twn lncations in the city that host these barrels.

In order to maintain these barrels, WNEC must pay a liability fee to the city and renew the permit every six months.

Suggestions

Despite the precautions we just mentioned, a resounding 33 out of 40 students do not consider them sufficient and do not feel safe crossing Wilbraham Road. One student stated, "Obviously they are not safe since someone was recently injured while crossing." Students who were dissatisfied with these precautions offered the following suggestions:

- better lighting
- larger sign
- punishment or fine
- traffic light
- bridge/walkway
- undercover police

Not all students believe it is up to the school to deal with the crosswalk problem. One student stated. "It's not the school's problem. It's the city's problem to enforce the laws and the student's responsibility to report it."

Other suggestions included the addition of new crosswalks. Twenty-four out of 40 students wanted a crosswalk at Sleith while 27 out of 40 students felt the need for one at Plymouth.

After corresponding with Fred Forseith from Springfield Highway Engineering, we found the request for the Sleith crosswalk would most likely be denied due to the existing crosswalk at Wilbraham Road and Bradley Road.

We asked Sells to offer some advice in hopes of preventing future accidents. He replied, "Use the crosswalks, take your time and be aware of oncoming traffic."

He also feels that student drivers need to be aware of their fellow students who are crossing.

Crosswalk safety is a big concern to most students and faculty members on campus — some students go so far as to drive to the main campus from Gateway, especially at night.

This further suggest that crosswalk precautions taken by the school are not sufficient and need to be improved.

PIVEN, *from previous page*

blizzarding Congress, big business has helped create a system which rolls back public programs, and "brings immigrants in and keeps them vulnerable."

The Scapegoat Mentality

All of this, according to Piven, creates another, more precarious "American situation."

Liberals who characterize the rise of the right by telling stories which focus on the ideas of the right as new are incorrect, said Piven.

"The ideas of the right are old, not new," she said. What is new is that they were made with an extraordinary single-mindedness and a lot of money."

The resultant cultural climate, especially since the passing of Clinton's welfare reform bill, is conducive to scapegoating.

"When people can't tangibly improve their condition, they are susceptible to hate mongering and hate politics," she said.

This created "a vast political theater of degradation ... evoking racism and dislike of the poor," Piven said. "Welfare reform politics has created a sort of Christian martyrdom."

"We are a very rich society. The problem is that our riches are concentrated among so few of us," Piven concluded.

Campus Food Service

by Merk Germein, Michele Meznick, Heather Kenny, and Irmine Phillips

What foods are the best sellers in the snack bar and the cafeteria? Why do these foods sell so well? Are these foods healthy?

These are just a few of the questions that are answered in the following report. We surveyed 40 students on the WNEC campus about how they felt about the food service.

Nutrition was a "hot topic" with many students who ate in the cafeteria.

The food service at Western New England College is ARAMARK. ARAMARK staffs three service stations: the Campus Center Dining Room, Campus Center Snack Bar, and the Itza Pizza Service.

Information brochures are available in Residence Life regarding the hours and the prices of the different meal plans and food prices.

As nutrition becomes a greater concern in the lives of many, changes have to be made to accommodate those people. More people are eating healthy foods now compared to 5 years ago.

This can be seen not only in the increase of produce sales, but also in the increased production of nutrition books and nutrition articles and magazines telling people how to stay fit, eat right, and use vitamins as alternatives for over-the-counter drugs. Many of these facts were reflected in the survey we conducted on campus.

Of the 40 students we surveyed, 28 students said that there were enough healthy foods offered on campus. The other 12 students thought that there could be a wider variety of fruits and vegetables, fewer fried foods in the cafeteria. One student thought that a potato bar would be a good idea.

Many students eating in the cafeteria prefer salads, bagels, and cereal. Those eating in the snack bar were more likely to choose a burger with fries or soup and salad — something that was quick and not expensive.

Of 17 students who dine in the cafeteria, eight enjoyed salad, 5 were more likely to consume cereal and bagels, and 4 chose deli sandwiches.

Of the 23 students who dine in the snack bar, 6 students preferred a burger with fries, 4 always ordered soup and salad, 8 enjoyed pizza, 4 chose the lowest priced item, and 1 student said his favorite was a veggie burger with fries.

Of the 23 students who dine in the snack bar, 18 buy the quickest or least expensive items; of the 17 students who frequent the cafeteria, 3 students said they pick the quickest foods and the other 14 said that they choose the best-looking and healthiest foods.

We concluded that the majority of the students who dine in the cafeteria preferred healthier choices than those who dine in the snack bar and get the quickest or least expensive thing.

When we talked to food service management, they informed us that popular foods in the cafeteria consisted of the salad bar (with low-fat dressings), grilled cheese, the pasta bar, and roll-up sandwiches.

The most popular of these is the salad bar and roll-up sandwiches, where there is always a line. The biggest sellers in the snack bar are pizza and burgers.

On average, the snack bar serves 1200 students a day. Roughly 720 burgers and 200 pizzas are sold weekly at the snack bar. The majority of burgers sold are bacon doubles, and most of the pizzas sold are veggie and cheese.

There was also a correlation between where students live, where they eat, and how they purchase their meals. As standard policy on campus, freshman and sophomores living in dorms must purchase the meal plan. On the meal plan students are required to dine in the cafeteria. Therefore, most of the students found in the snack bar are upperclassmen or commuters. These students use meal points or cash to purchase their food.

Students had positive things to say when it came to cleanliness of the food service areas, service from staff, and convenient service hours.

In response to the questions about the staff's attitude, 38 out of 40 surveyed said that the staff was friendly and polite. Only two commented that the staff could be rude and pushy when there were long lines.

All 40 surveyed said the food areas were clean.

We obtained a positive response to the question on the convenience of service hours — 35 of 40 found the hours fit into their schedule. The other 5 surveyed were unhappy with the present hours. The changes those students wanted to see were longer breakfast hours, or service straight through from lunch to diner.

The results reflected the positive attitudes of the workers, the cleanliness of the food areas and the tasteful food served.

The Fiesta Bar and Nacho Bar were two things that we found of interest to students. Two students said the Nacho Bar was good and 3 were impressed with the Fiesta Bar.

The only negative issue we found was that students wanted a wider variety of fruits and vegetable served at each meal. Two ideas generated from this survey were to add a potato bar to the cafeteria and to serve soups with a half a sandwich for those students who are looking for something quick to eat.

An Introduction to Housing

by Thomas P. Wozniak
Director of Residence Life

With more than 1,200 students living on campus, in a variety of housing arrangements, the housing application and assignment process is a time consuming and important one.

We in Residence Life take our responsibilities seriously. We know that every application represents a real person, and we do our best to be thorough and fair. Our overall success, however, depends on you!

"Fairness" is consistency in a process, so everyone is provided equal opportunity within defined parameters. Our commitment to being "fair" and "thorough" can be undermined by missing or conflicting information, or missing critical deadlines.

So this article is an effort to provide some facts and important information to the College community, and helpful advice to students who will be involved in the application and assignment process.

Planning Ahead

If you are a current resident student (who is not graduating), you will find materials to reapply for housing in your campus mailbox when you return from Spring Break.

Commuters who may want to live on campus in the fall should then stop by the Residence Life Office to pick up an application packet.

The following information will answer many of your questions, and help you complete your application. If you need assistance or clarification, attend one of the Genera; Information Sessions or speak with a Residence Life staff member.

It's a Two-Way Street

You do your job and we'll do ours! Completing a two-part process will guarantee you a housing assignment for next year.

Step One: Carefully fill out the application, pay a non-refundable $100 deposit, and return the application. This may be done at Student Administrative Services during the week of March 30 - April 3.

Residence Life staff will be available at SAS during designated hours to collect completed applications.

Step Two: A deposit and paid application do not guarantee you housing in the fall. It makes you eligible for an assignment.

To be guaranteed campus housing, a confirmation payment must be received by July 1. Students who have applied for housing will be sent information regarding this required payment in late May (at their home address.)

Risky Business

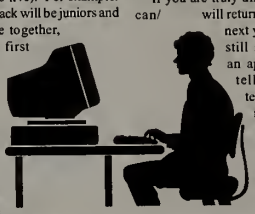
Here are some ways you can end up in difficulty. Avoid these mistakes or traps.

Missing Deadlines: We anticipate that there will be significant demand for campus residency next year, both from current and new (incoming) students. Missing application and payment deadlines means you could end up without housing (on a "waiting list" for a space somewhere on campus) or you could end up assigned where a space is available ... without your preferred roommate(s.) After July 1, there are no guarantees!!

Missing Information. While we try to review applications as they are submitted, it is your responsibility to ensure you provide all the information requested. "Gaps" mean we have to guess, and are not beneficial to you or to us.

Conflicting Information. When reading applications, we sometimes wonder if people who want to live together ever talk about it!

People who wish to be roommates should provide the same preferences (in terms of where they would like to live). For example: If John and Jack will be juniors and want to live together, and John's first choice (on his application) is a two-person apartment, while Jack's first choice (on his form) is a larger apartment for three people, someone is going to be disappointed with the housing assignment.



Reach agreement on what you want and fill out your applications together!

Limited Information. If you don't bother to give us basic information on your study habits and lifestyle, we have nothing to go by if we need to assign you with other person(s.)

If you have special concerns, there is an open-ended section where you can explain your needs to us. If you only provide one preference for assignment (when we ask for three), and you do not have enough seniority for this choice (since the availability of popular options always exceeds the demand for them), we will decide for you.

And when assignment letters are mailed out in August, it is too late to make any changes about roommates or the place where you will reside.

Honest Information. Tell the truth! If you are a smoker and indicate otherwise, or if you are very messy and don't say so, it is going to be a problem for more than just yourself. If you prefer not to live with someone next year, tell them. It is hurtful to let them list you as their preferred roommate when you are making other plans.

If you are truly unsure if you can/ will return to WNEC next year but are still submitting an application, tell your intended roommate about this possibility now. That way he or she is better prepared for the possibility of another roommate (assigned by us.)

How It Works — A Brief Overview

Unlike a "luck of the draw" lottery system, our process is designed to recognize and affirm academic performance — the fundamental reason you are in college.

Housing assignments are ultimately based on two criteria: class year attained and cumulative grade point average.

In other words, the academic achievement of students who select to room together directly impacts their placement on campus. Very simply stated, it is an academically focused "trickle down" system of placement.

The apartments in Gateway Village are reserved for students who have achieved junior and senior standing. Within this broad group, high achiever seniors who are roommates have the most seniority for placement in the complex. Assuming they meet all application and payment deadlines, they are best positioned for having their preferences (size apartment, location, roommates and the like) fulfilled.

Roommate pairs who are a mix of seniors and juniors are considered next, then juniors, etc. Students who have achieved sophomore standing are eligible for Gateway Village only as space permits. Unlike the past few years, it appears that apartment space will be very limited for sophomores in 98-99.

Plymouth Complex is reserved for students who have achieved sophomore standing. Similar to placement in Gateway, students who have performed well academically (as reflected through grade point averages) have priority for placement. Sophomores will also be assigned to the traditional residence halls; more so than in the past few years.

We recognize that "year attained" gets complicated, and build some safeguards into the assignment process. For example, students who are short credits for junior standing (third term sophomores) have more seniority than "true" sophomores (former first year students) but less seniority than "true" juniors. "True" sophomores have more seniority than first year students who stay third term freshmen, and so on.

All things being equal, cumulative grade point averages (combined averages of students requesting to live together) are a significant deciding factor.

There is also a brief "window of opportunity" for students to improve their standing for a housing assignment.

We will delay processing the academics (year attained and grade point average) of any student who indicates he/she intends to take a summer course that will be completed — with course grade(s) received at Student Administrative Services — by June 30. Information as of that date is binding, since we start the assignment process as of July 1.

In sum, the academic standing of students who wish to live together (and documented misconduct, if a significant concern) determines placement. But do not choose roommate(s) based solely on their grade point average!

Getting assigned to a more preferred location has little value if you're going to end up miserable there. Compatibility is the most important factor when you're planning to share space for a full year. And you do not need a roommate preference to apply for housing. We routinely assign students to live together.

Once again, avoid these traps! After the July 1 payment deadline, seniority and academic achievement have no impact.

For example, you could be a senior with a 3.86 GPA and find yourself without housing for the fall, or assigned wherever the first vacancy occurs. Regrettably, this can, and does, happen.

We in Residence Life have no latitude or ability to make "quick fixes" once assignments are made and notification is sent out. The best we can do is set up "waiting lists", which offer no guarantees. Don't become a victim through negligence or oversight.

Our commitment to fairness and being thorough in an assignment process depends on accurate and thorough information from you and preferred roommate(s), and adherence to application and payment deadlines. Pretty simple, but very important.

More detailed materials, including several open forum information sessions, will be available soon.

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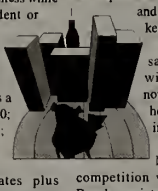
The Search is on for Collegiate Entrepreneurs

Worcester, Mass. — Today's young entrepreneurs become tomorrow's economic leaders.

Because of this the WPI Department of Management is sponseoring the Massachusetts Collegiate Entrepreneur Awards to recognize thise student entrepreneurs who started a business while an undergraduate student or who started a business before deciding to return to school to complete their education.



The Program carries a first-place prize of $750; $500 for second-place; and $250 for third-place.

Twelve other states plus Mexico are sponsering contests this year with the first-place winner advancing to the North American Entrepreneur Awards, hosted by St. Louis University.

"We know there are numerous student entrepreneurs in Massachusetts who own and run their businesses," said McRae C. Banks, Harry G. Stoddard Professor and management department head at WPI. "There's a deadline of April 9 for application submissions and I encourage young entrepreneurs to apply."

Applications have been send to business schools, departments and programs of each college in the state, and may also be obtained from the WPI Department of Management by calling 508-831-5218 or via e-mail from macb@wpi.edu.

The application/nomination form consists of two pages requesting key details of the student, recommendation from an educator or nominator, company information and questions on products, business operations, services rendered and geographical markets served.

The three Massachusetts contest winners will be announced in May and honored in a banquet in early June.

Judges for the Massachusetts competition will be: Candida Brush, assistance professor of management at Boston university; William P. Densmore, Coalition for Venture Support in Worcester; leonard Devanna, president and CEO of Com/Energy Enterprises, Inc.; and Alfred Molinari, president and CEO of Data Translation, Inc.

WPI is a technological university known for its project-based curriculum. It was ranked among the to 50 national universities in the 1998 edition of *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Colleges Guide.

It was also ranked thirty-fifth among the top 50 national institutions on the magazine's Best College Values report.

Upcoming Women's Studies Lectures

South Hadley, Mass. — The following events will be held in the Dickinson House Living Room of the Five College Women's Studies Research Center on the Mount Holyoke College campus. Informal receptions follow all evening talks. All events are free and open to the public.

On Monday, March 30 at 4:30pm, Kiran Asher, visiting Assistant Professor of Women's Studies at Mount Holyoke College, will give a Works-in-Progress talk entitled "Victims or Guardian Angles? Third World Women in Development Discourse."

Since the mid-1970s, attempts have been made to include or integrate Third World women in the discourse on development. Variously labeled as "victims," "reproducers and producers," "resource managers," or "cultural guardians," Third World women have been put forth as being instrumental in development, yet are in many instances worse off today than in 1975, when the UN Decade for the Advancement of Women began.

Asher will critically review these trends, analyzing how Third World women have become the "objects" of development discourse wile remaining marginalized despite this attention.

On Tuesday, March 31, at 7:30pm, Carol Cohn, a Five College Women's Studies Research Associate from Bowdoin College, will give a Colloquium entitled "American national Security Thinking After the Cold War: Language, Gender and institutional Culture."

The following questions will be considered: Dnes gender have any impact on national security policy? Which of the many meanings of "gender" help us think sensibly about this question?

Cohn explores the proposition that gender — understood not as an attribute of individuals, but as a meaning system — shapes national security deliberations, policies and practices in the US.

On Monday, April 6 at 4:30pm, Heidi Creamer, a Five College Women's Studies Community Associate from New England Learning Center for Women in Transition, Greenfield, MA, will give a Works-in-Progress talk entitled "How Are We working for Women?: Non-profit Boards of Directors, Diversity, and Social Change."

Creamer's research asks: Generally, who are these board members? Do women who are addressed in the organization's mission have a voice on the board? How is the board composition related to race, class, culture, disability? Overall, how can these boards be set up to promote social change?

On Tuesday, April 7 at 7:30pm, Patricia Larson Kalayjian, a Five College Women's Studies Research Associate from Scripps College, will give a Colloquium entitled "Catharine Sedgwick: A Case of Scholarly Misogyny and Literary Exclusion."

The tale of Sedgwick — an important and influential writer in the 1820s and 1830s — is a cautionary one, raising provocative questions. How was her literary-historical erasure accomplished? Can the voices of 20th century women writers be silenced by similar means?

For more information about the lectures, call (413) 538-2022.

Senator Lees Argues for Death Penalty

by Wayne Barr

Senator Brian Lees, minority leader of the republican party, spoke about death penalty legislation in Massachusetts on February 25 at 6:00pm in the Law Center.

Currently there is no death penalty in the state of Massachusetts, although according to Lees 75 percent of the state's population supports it.

Lees said he was the first person to introduce the bill "several years ago"; it passed in the Senate, but not in the House.

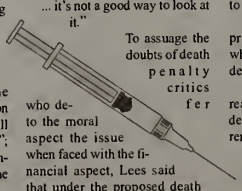
"They were trying to be very antagonistic," Lees said of opponents to the bill.

Since then, in response to the high-profile murders of ten-year-old Jeffrey Curley and Elaine Donahue, the Senate modified a pending bill to include the death penalty for "certain types of murders"; the House drafted a compromise bill which met with a tied vote.

It was the closest the death penalty came to becoming an actuality since Governor Weld filed his first death penalty bill in 1991.

According to Lees, "the death penalty is a powerful deterrent."

He also said that the expense of incarcerating a murderer for life exceeds the expense of the death penalty, although he added that "we shouldn't be looking at cost ... it's not a good way to look at it."



To assuage the doubts of death penalty critics who defer to the moral aspect the issue when faced with the financial aspect, Lees said that under the proposed death penalty legislation for Massachusetts, "if there's a scintilla of doubt, we make sure that person is not put to death."

The crimes for which the death penalty would be sentenced include murder of a police officer, rape, and "other specific cases," he said.

Lees admitted that some studies have found that the death penalty had racial consequences, with minorities being more likely to be sentenced to death.

According to Lees, however, the current draft of the death penalty bill has "satisfied people," and has even changed the minds of some members of the house.

Lees later added that the Supreme Court has the authority to set aside a sentence for prejudice or lack of evidence.

Lees also pointed out that public opinion is in favor of the bill.

"The death penalty is no different than any other vote in the legislature," he said. "You have to survey your audience, you have to get their support."

Some audience members expressed skepticism about data which suggests that states with the death penalty have fewer crimes.

Others were uncertain what the real motivation was behind the death penalty — to act as a deterrent, or punishment.

When accused of cloaking punishments as deterrents, Lees said that there were "a number of different reasons" for the death penalty.

"Morally, ethically, it's the right thing," he said, later adding that the proposal was "not a knee-jerk reaction to something in my mind."

According to Lees, the issue of capital punishment will "probably come up in the budget this year ... we're going to try to bring it in again. If not, it will be an issue in this fall's election."

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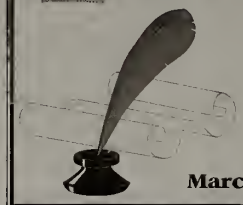
EDITORIALS



March 20, 1998

Can't Decide? How About an English Major?

Recently, at a Western New England College undergrad open house, I had the opportunity to speak with a prospective student about the English major.

The student was unsure about what she wanted to do, a common feeling for many new college students.

It was this conversation that reminded me of just how fortunate WNEC is to have such a strong English department. I talked to the student about the expectations and requirements of the English major, and I mentioned the strong support and encouragement that English students receive from the faculty.

As an English Literature major, I spoke to the prospective student about the variety of literature courses offered. I explained to her that these courses seldom conflict with one another.

This, I told her, enables students to choose literature electives that interest them without creating scheduling problems or limiting themselves to courses in which they have less of an interest.

I really think I might have convinced her.

The support the English department gives to its majors is unending. These faculty members make themselves readily available to counsel and encourage their students, and they listen to the students' comments and concerns.

For example, last semester the English department held a meeting for English majors to talk about the curriculum. Dean Wilcox was present, along with many of the faculty of the English department.

Students were given the opportunity to speak up on what they needed for courses, as well as what they wanted to see for additional courses. I am happy to report that this semester, we have what we asked for — so, thank you, Professors Angus, Fish, Bowdan, Hoar, Haber, and Thomas, and Dean Wilcox, and the many others who contributed to make a great program even better!

So, to those of you still undecided, think about majoring in English. Take a trip to Career and Human Resources in the Campus Center and learn about the great things you can do with a degree in English Literature or English Communications.

Or visit one of the professors mentioned in this article. If you are still not convinced, then come talk to me. After all, would I come out from beneath my pile of extensive reading and writing assignments to talk about this if it weren't a great major?

Sarah Auchter Miller

Students Offer Differing Views On WNEC

I thought long and hard about writing this editorial, but after the things I have heard and problems that have arisen concerning me, I decided to write. The contents of this editorial aren't meant as a slam on the administration and faculty — I see them rather along the lines of constructive criticism. This is a editorial of concern, plain and simple.

I have grown to love this school. I am happy with my choice and I will never question myself, but lately there have been many things that have come to the attention of the students. I am just one student and these are my opinions, but that isn't to say that others don't share them.

First, I am a student leader here and because of that I sometimes come across information that not everyone else does. WNEC prides itself on being a small school and that is why many students choose it, but over the past few years the number of students increases each fall. If the number of students keeps increasing, then we will no longer be a small school, but a growing one.

Growth is good, but in WNEC's case it is also hypocritical. There are already many classes that I can't get into because they are overloaded or there aren't enough sections of them. In two of my classes, there aren't even enough seats to allow everyone to have one. There are too many people in the classrooms now, and the administration is entertaining the idea of record numbers of students! I think that this is a case of quantity, not quality. The administration is sacrificing the happiness of its students for its own greed.

Along the same lines as having too many students, there is also the case of parking. The HLC alone has more staff parking spots than staff members. On some nights, it gets to the point where there aren't enough student spots and when someone parks in a faculty spot after hours, she or he gets a $15 fine. The same holds true for Gateway and Plymouth. There aren't enough parking spots for all the students. Many nights, I can't find a spot in either lot. This is frustrating to me and many people I have talked to, and is just one more thing that adds to the unhappiness that makes some students transfer.

Speaking of residence halls, especially Plymouth, there are many rooms that are falling apart. Instead of worrying about building a new dorm for incoming students, worry about the ones that are here. I have heard of many beds in Plymouth breaking after merely being sat on, and the walls are so thin I can hear someone sneeze two rooms down.

Another thing I wanted to talk about is the philosophy of personal attention from the faculty. When I came here, the school always talked about how the professors know your name and they are always in their offices if any help is needed. Over the past two semesters, I have had three professors that didn't have a clue who I was and it made it difficult to have outside relations with these professors because they constantly ask me if I am in their class. No matter how often I told them I was, they wouldn't remember the next time I went to them. The school presses personal one on one attention and it isn't always there. Also, when I went to go get help from the professors that did know me, they weren't in their offices during their posted hours.

Finally, I and many students I know have gone to department heads, faculty advisers, and even deans to talk about scheduling. They know a lot about it, but only to an extent. I went to a dean to ask if a certain class fulfilled a requirement of mine, and he said that it did. Later, when I received my transcript, I found out that it didn't. A student almost didn't graduate because she went to the department and asked about certain classes that the grade could be replaced in. A figure from the department said that if she did it in the way the person said, everything would be all right. It turned out that the person in the department was wrong and that there was a great possibility that the student wouldn't graduate. She wouldn't graduate because of the lack of knowledge in the department, not through anything she had done, but the blame was still put on her even though she went through all the steps available to her to prevent such an occurrence. This isn't the only incident of this kind. It has also affected many other students.

This editorial isn't meant to put down the efforts of the school. I understand that it is a transition period and that many things are happening with strategic planning and such. This is just a plea to the administration to open its eyes to the problems involving its students. We, the students, are customers and we need to be happy about our purchase. With many of us, patience is wearing thin as time goes on and more problems arise.

Anonymous

"So, Josh, how do you like WNEC so far?" Many people, particularly relatives and friends from my UMass days, have asked me this question, and the answer is, thus far, I do like it.

Last semester, like this semester, I was enrolled part-time while working nearly full time. I was on campus less than three hours a week; I didn't know Churchill from Emerson, and if I could have pointed out the Campus Center to that visitor, I would have. I was getting something out of my class, though not much, and I didn't really connect with too many people I had met (which, admittedly, wasn't many).

I'm now taking a day class, so even if I don't have much time to hang around campus, I at least get to see for myself that people do in fact inhabit the campus. My class meets in a different building on Monday, so I at least get to see a little more of campus than I did last semester. I've found the Campus Center, and an office to stop by occasionally. I've even found my own little spot to sit and study. I'm not going to tell you where it is, of course, for fear that you might take it over.

WNEC is a lot different from UMass, which is where I started. I like the smaller classes here. I like the fact that my professors know my name, and if I forget to put my name on something they can tell it's mine by the handwriting anyway. I like meeting people one at a time, rather than the huge groups of people that walk around at UMass. I like seeing the few people I do know on campus most days that I'm at WNEC rather than every couple of weeks.

I'm not particularly enthralled with the amount of stuff to do off campus but in the immediate vicinity. At UMass, you can walk downtown from your dorm in the same amount of time it takes to get to class. Here at WNEC, you really do need a car, since PVTA is helpful but not entirely adequate, and everything is so far away.

I can't comment on the dorms (although they are much closer to campus than the UMass dorms), as I don't live in them, or the food, since I haven't eaten anything on campus.

All in all, I can see myself being happy at WNEC. We seem to have it pretty well off here, and as for me, I'm enjoying myself. For those of you who aren't, take a look at some of your alternatives. There are many problems here that are identical to those at other schools (and I'm sure most have to do with residence halls, campus food, and parking), but the decision to attend one school rather than another should be made on what is good about a school, not just that it has less bad about it than another school.

Josh Shear

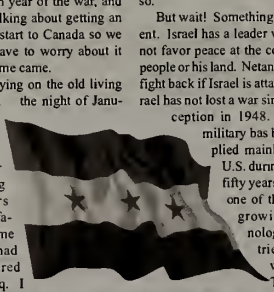
Hey you! Yeah that's right! You there! With the brain! Do you believe in free thought? How about freedom of speech? Do you have opinions? Would you like to be heard? Write for the Editorial Section! Call 782 1580 or e m a i l westedit@hotmail.com!

Some Thoughts on Saddam Hussein

A student e-mailed me to ask my feelings on "this whole Iraq thing." In response, I'm going to start back in December of 1990, when I was sitting in ninth grade Spanish class talking to a classmate named Greg.

That was back before we attacked Iraq, though the threat was imminent. It seemed everybody was talking about World War III, and this was going to go on for a long time. We were all worried about being drafted sometime during the fifth year of the war, and we were talking about getting an early head start to Canada so we wouldn't have to worry about it when the time came.

I was laying on the old living room couch the night of January 16, 1991, when my brother came flying downstairs to tell my father and me that we had just declared war on Iraq. I remembered being scared, not for what was going to happen to me — since the actually fighting was happening so far away — but for Israel. The U.S. had instructed them to not retaliate if Iraq attacked, and Iraq had threatened to attack Israel if the U.S. attacked Iraq. I remember watching in fear the first time Iraq bombed Jerusalem; the television showed images of people in gas masks running through the street and ambulances flying everywhere. I had friends in Israel, and I was mortified for them.



We all know how that chapter ends, though. Iraq signed a truce 35 days after we declared war on them, and we started giving them food for oil.

But the antagonist was allowed to continue. Despite all the jokes (How do you say Saddam Hussein backwards? Mad-ass Insane!), Saddam Hussein continued as head of Iraq, terrorizing those who didn't agree with him, and wielding far too much power of those who did.

And now, where are we after seven years? Threatening Iraq again. The U.N. doesn't want a war. That hasn't changed. The U.S. has been threatening Hussein for months. That hasn't changed on either end. Hussein isn't yielding. That hasn't changed. Given these factors, what is stopping us from going in there and crushing the country in another month? Humanitarianism? I don't think so.

But wait! Something *is* different. Israel has a leader who does not favor peace at the cost of his people or his land. Netanyahu will fight back if Israel is attacked. Israel has not lost a war since its inception in 1948. Israel's military has been supplied mainly by the U.S. during the last fifty years, and has one of the fastest growing technology industries in the world. There have been times over the past few years when Israel has offered citizenship to computer scientists and engineers if they came to work for the country's industries.

Netanyahu is not a man willing to compromise much, and if he is given enough reason to destroy Iraq, he will do it. Israel is fully capable of wiping out Iraq on its own, never mind with the U.S. and other allies behind it.

There always remains the danger of the biological weapons Iraq supposedly has, but even if it uses them, Iraq does not have enough power to conquer the rest of the world.

Wiping out Iraq is not necessary. What is necessary is ridding the world of Saddam Hussein and anyone who aspires to be like him. The world does not need leaders who do not stay true to their word.

One can make arguments against Bill Clinton for these sex scandals, but in the end, he is not hurting as many people as biological weapons or a world war would hurt, even if every accusation that has been made is true. If we can't trust people to be citizens of the world and at least civil to the rest of the population, how can we trust that they do not want to destroy the rest of the world? How can we be assured that they don't have the means to do it?

We can't, and that is why we should have gotten rid of Saddam Hussein back in 1991 when he first posed a threat to the world. We can't erase the last seven years and correct that mistake, but we can assure it doesn't happen again. Whether the U.N. exiles Saddam, or something a bit more forceful happens, the threat he poses to the world needs to be removed, and it is now within the power of the rest of the world to do that.

Josh Shear

SICK OF THIS "FLAVOR OF THE MONTH" STUFF

"Hello! I'm a woman and a democrat, and I'm sick and tired of hearing about Bill Clinton's sex life!"

Whew! Boy, am I glad I got that off my chest. Question: how come the White House Press Corps has been diligently searching for each and every woman that Bill Clinton has desired in a sexual way during his entire life? Well, all their hard work and sacrifice seems to have paid off, since they have found three names (so far): the forgettable Jennifer Flowers, the unforgettable Paula Jones, and the "we all want to forget her but Jay Leno won't let us" Monica Lewinsky.

If memory serves me correctly, the only one that actually admitted to having "relations" with our great president was Jennifer Flowers, right? Ironically, her affair was the only one that did not initiate a Congressional hearing. What did Paula Jones and Monica Lewinsky do, anyway? I used to know, but managed to forget, so please don't remind me.

Did anyone else see the press conference a couple of weeks ago that "starred" President Clinton and Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair? For those of you who tuned out, I'll give you a brief recap. President Clinton and Prime Minister Blair were complaining to the press bow both countries have similar interests in the brewing Gulf Crisis. After they vowed to stand by each other through war or peace, the two great leaders opened questions up to the floor. Did the American press ask insightful, intelligent, and thought-provoking questions about America's future relations with Iraq? No, they asked idiotic, annoying, and embarrassing questions about Clinton's past "relations" with Monica Lewinsky. I'm sorry, but when the leader of a country is hosting the prime minister of another country, the press should show a little respect and save the smutty questions for a more appropriate date.

This was not an isolated incident, either. The same thing happened a week before when Clinton was hosting Yassir Arafat, the leader of the Palestinian Liberation Organization. It was uncalled for, and just plain embarrassing.

Yes, I'm a Democrat who voted for Clinton in 1996. However, I am not a Clinton worshipper. I realize he has "allegedly" done some things that are morally wrong, like cheating on his wife and taking campaign money from Indonesians, or committing finance fraud (i.e. Whitewater, which is a bunch of crap anyway).

Personally, I would not trust the man further than I could throw him! Regardless, I do believe he is doing a good job. The economy is in good shape, people are happy, we aren't going to war with Iraq, and things are good!

I'm going to make a suggestion to all those White House reporters who get a kick out of Bill Clinton's sex life (even though I realize they will never read this article): leave the man alone! In case you didn't notice, he's trying to run a country here! If he had sex with that girl and told her to lie about it on the stand, so be it. Find enough information — on your own — and get him impeached. Reminder: you only have two years until he leaves office, so you better burry up! If you must harass someone about that Lewinsky chick, badger Kenneth Starr. He's the only American who cares anymore. Do the rest of us a favor, find a new "flavor of the month." This one tastes bad. Maybe some Congressman or a Governor will adopt a hamster or a monkey — pet stories sell papers.

A "Crazy" Liberal Democrat

DNA Testing Wrong

The government should not be doing DNA testing. For now, they are only testing the DNA of people already in prison for various crimes in order to see if they can match the tested DNA with DNA found at scenes of unsolved crimes. But what if it turns out that crimes can't be solved that way? Will the government start testing everyone's DNA?

I, for one, don't want the government telling me I have to get stuck with a needle or I have to donate a few strands of my hair so that they can find my DNA pattern and see if matches other DNA found at a crime scene. I'm no criminal, but what if some DNA is found there by accident?

Isn't it conceivable that I could walk into a bank, lose a couple of eyelashes on the counter before I leave, and then have someone come in right after I leave and rob the bank? Should I have to stand for being a suspect because my eyelashes fall out like everyone else's, and they just happened to fall out in the wrong place at the wrong time? That's ludicrous!

While I believe that people who commit crimes, particularly violent crimes, do forfeit some of their rights, I think there needs to be some right to privacy as far as being able to keep your own blood and hair if you want, even in jail. DNA testing should stop with the recent court injunction.

Anonymous

Health Services is a Doctor's Office

As a work/study student in Health Services, I know first-hand what goes on when students and employees come in.

The first thing I would like to say is that Health Services is a doctor's office. So many people come in and expect to be seen immediately, and they complain about it if they are not. What I would like to ask these people is what they are like when they go to their family doctor at home. Do they wait patiently to be called, or do they go up to the receptionist's desk every five seconds to ask how long it will be before they are seen? Another question is: why do they assume that the receptionists would know how long the nurse will take with her student? We don't know what they are being seen for; we do not have ESP! We can't just say, "well, we know why they're here, it should take twenty minutes," or, "oh, it's not that important, it should only take five minutes." It is none of our business, and frankly, it is none of yours. People don't do any complaining when they are in the office and the nurse spends a long time with them — only when it is others. We do realize that you have to wait when you come in, but everybody does, so you don't need to sigh or say mean things about the service here; there's nothing we can do about it.

Next, employees. The same thing. My favorite thing that the employees do is when they walk in, they walk right past you and look in the nurse practitioner's office to see if she is there — they even look down the hallway, before they even ask if she is here. If, however, for some strange reason they don't do it in that exact order, they will do the opposite. They ask if the nurse is there, and regardless of the answer, they proceed to look in the office or down the hall. Why is this? Do they take precedent over the students because they are employees? I don't think so. When they go to their family doctor, do they do the same thing? I hope not!

What I am basically trying to convey here is that Health Services is, and should be considered, a regular doctor's office, and should be treated with the same respect as one. People should realize that we are here to help you; it would be nice if you could help us in return.

Emily Queeney

Dear Western New England College Students,

As some of you may know, there has been a big push in the past few months for Students' Rights. The document on the following pages acts as an outline of what rights students have in an academic manner, i.e. the classroom. For those of you who may not know exactly what this is all about, here is a brief overview of what his has to do with you, the average WNEC student.

This Document, as it is currently called, Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities, outlines what rights students have in an academic setting. It also outlines what responsibilities we as students have in an academic setting, and includes a formal way for students to grieve about faculty members.

Now, this document is meant to make students aware of their rights. This document is also meant to give students a formal way to grieve about a faculty member if they cannot seem to get anything accomplished informally. This document set up a committee of three faculty members, three full-time undergraduate students, and three part-time undergraduate students. This committee is the body that would hear cases and give students advice on how they can resolve disputes over grades or how they were treated in the classroom.

This does not, however, give students the right to grieve about grades that they feel should have been "A" instead of "B." Granted, if you can prove that your paper deserved an "A" and back that up with facts, then you would have a legitimate case. The whole procedure is meant instead to empower students to talk to their teachers when they have problems. Communication with the faculty is sometimes hard, I know, but in order to get anything accomplished one must try.

Here at Western New England College we are going through a tremendous amount of change now that Dr. Caprio has taken over as the president. This document is meant to change how students interact with their professors. It is meant to give students the power to dispute unjust acts in the classroom, formally. It is meant to help students learn what rights they have in the classroom as well as their responsibilities as students in the classroom.

On March 31, Student Senate will be holding its annual election. When you vote on that Tuesday, there will also be a ballot for students to vote to support this document, the Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities. If you support this movement, vote YES for the Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities on March 31!

Ryan Courtemanche
Sophomore Class President

Western New England College Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities

(Includes a Student-to-Faculty Grievance Proedure)

Introduction

The following academic rights and responsibilities are written to protect students from academic injustices and to give them a voice in how they are treated in the classroom and evaluated.

Title

Art. 1 These rules shall be known as the Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities.

Definitions

Art. 2 When used in the Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities —

A. The term "student" includes all persons enrolled at any Western New England College campus, both full-time and part-time, pursuing undergraduate degrees.
B. The term "student evaluation refers to the letter grade that the student receives for a particular course she/he was enrolled in and that appears on his/her formal transcript. This also refers to letter grades on work done in or outside the classroom that contributes to the overall grade as seen on the transcript.
C. The term "school days" refers to all days that undergraduate academic classes are scheduled and are in full session Monday through Friday for undergraduate courses.
D. All other terms have their common or dictionary meaning unless the context dictates otherwise.

Classroom Rights

Art. 3 The following rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by students in their capacity as members of the student body or as citizens of the community at large. In addition to those rights and responsibilities ensured by the Constitution of the United States and those limitations imposed by federal, state, and local laws are special rights and responsibilities acquired by students because they are members of the College community.

A. Students are free to pursue their educational goals; appropriate opportunities for learning in the classroom and on the campus shall be provided by the College.
B. The right of students to be free from harassment or discrimination based on sex, race, color, national origin, religion, ancestry, sexual orientation, disability, or as specified by law, age, or veteran status, marital or parental status shall not be abridged. Such rights are further enumerated in the College policies in Sexual Harassment, Racial and Ethnic Harassment, and the Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Grievance Procedures. See the student handbook for contacts and other information.
C. The college should make all reasonable effort to accommodate students with disabilities permanent and temporary.
D. There shall be a uniform means established for students to evaluate courses and instruction based on their experiences in the classroom.
E. Discussion and expression of all views relevant to the subject matter are permitted in the classroom, subject only to the responsibility of the instructor to maintain order.
F. Each student has the right to expect an instructor to be adequately prepared for class and accessible for individual conference. Students have the right to a written syllabus or equivalent means for learning what will be expected of them in any course so that they can rationally plan their study time. This includes receiving evaluated assignments and tests in a timely manner. It is the responsibility of the student to seek individual help when needed, and to keep up with his/her studies in order to understand fully the nature of the materials presented.
G. Students have the right of access to the evaluation of their performance so they can know their strengths and weaknesses.
H. Students have the right to express their grievances about academic injustices.

Classroom Responsibilities

A. Students are responsible for learning the context of any course for which they are enrolled.
B. Students have a responsibility to inform an instructor of anything that he or she wishes to be kept confidential when consulting with that instructor. It is then the instructor's responsibility to maintain that confidentiality. the instructor may have the right to break that confidentiality if the student tells him/her of a situation that puts the student or others in danger (mentally and/or physically).

Art. 5 When a student feels that his or her classroom rights have been violated in a manner that has led to an unfair academic evaluation, or whenever students feel that their grades have been arrived at in an arbitrary and capricious manner, they may institute an academic grievance as follows in this document. An academic grievance cannot grieve at an academic judgment per se, and it does not infringe on the academic freedom of faculty members. What is grieved is a violation of the Student's Academic Rights and Responsibilities or some arbitrary and capricious act on the part of the instructor that does not allow a student an equal opportunity with his or her classmates for a fair assessment of total academic achievement.

A. The student shall have a time frame of one week into the following semester of the incident to dispute their academic evaluation. In extraordinary circumstances, to be determined by the Student Rights Committee, this time frame can be lengthened.

Student Grievance Procedure Concerning Instruction and Instructors

General Principles

Art. 7 In accordance with the Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities, the Student Rights Committee (SRC) has, as its main responsibility, the hearing of student charges alleging the suppression, abridgment, abuse, and any other violation of their student rights in an academic setting. The SRC also acts as a counsel for students who want to know their rights and the best way for them to proceed with their grievance.

A. Access to the SRC shall be provided to all undergraduate students of Western new England College (full-time and part-time) in order to assure opportunity for a hearing and the equitable resolution of a grievance.

Art. 8 This Grievance Procedure is designed to provide students with an equitable, efficient, and expeditious process to address and resolve complaints wherein a student alleges that some instructor of the College or someone employed by the College has violated one of his/her rights as a student in an academic matter.

A. A grievance may be filed by any student that is enrolled in at least on undergraduate course at Western new England College. A grievance may also be filed by a person who is not a student at the College only id 1.) the alleged violation occurred while he/she was a student; 2.) procedures for redress were started as soon as

the alleged violation became known; and 3.) all other procedures in this document were followed.

I. Definition of Grievance

A. A student grievance shall be defined as a violation of a student's rights as set forth in the Students' Academic Rights and Responsibilities contained in the student handbook and any other academic rights that may have been infringed upon. It is further defined as a difference, complaint, or dispute, resulting from alleged academic injustice, or regarding the interpretation and application of College policy in an academic setting.

B. A student has the right to grieve about an instructor and not suffer penalty in his/her evaluation by that instructor because of his/her grievance, at the end of the course or in any other course the student may take with that particular instructor.

C. All members of the SRC who sit in judgment in a grievance hearing shall be free of vested and/or personal interests in the particular case.

1.) In no instance shall a SRC member be subject to an unfair student evaluation because of his/her participation on this committee or in a particular case.

II. Procedures

A. This procedure is outlined in the following steps:

1.) A grievance must be submitted in writing to the SRC within 10 class days of the last action taken to resolve the situation informally. In extraordinary circumstances, to be determined by the SRC, this time frame may be lengthened.

2.) The student will first go to his/her instructor in a timely manner and try to solve any conflicts informally.

3.) If he/she makes no progress in that area or if he/she feels awkward or uncomfortable talking with the instructor, he/she shall then go to the Chair of the instructor's department. If the Chair of the department is the instructor the student has a grievance with, then the student shall go to tbe Dean of the school that the instructor works in. After the student has talked with the Chair of the department, she/he shall then go to the Dean of the particular school if he/she still feels as though the situation has not been resolved.

4.) Students sball have the right to approach any member of the SRC and confer with that member about his/her situation, prior to any hearing or formal grievance procedure. At that time all conferences with the SRC shall be kept confidential. Members of the SRC will stay neutral throughout the informal procedure.

5.) After those avenues have been exhausted or if the student feels that such avenues would not be in his/her best interest, the student shall then bring his/her formal complaint to the SRC.

III. Filing Procedures

A. The grievant shall submit to the Chairperson of the SRC a dated, signed, written statement of the grievance that

1.) identifies the person(s) against whom he/she is raising the grievance;

2.) cites the policy, procedure, or practice that is alleged to have been violated, or states the substantive nature of the grievance;

3.) lists, where appropriate, the name or names of the persons who have witnessed the alleged violation;

4.) lists any evidence that is going to be submitted at the hearing;

5.) outlines actions taken to resolve the situation informally; and

6.) what redress the student would like to see as an outcome of the hearing;

7.) and notes any other pertinent information that may be of help in hearing the case.

B. The Student Grievance Committee shall send a copy of the statement to the person(s) or group against whom the grievance has been raised within 3 class days and shall request a written response within a reasonable time — normally within 5 class days but in no case to exceed 10 class days. Any witnesses to the alleged violation may be called upon to give their testimony in the hearing.

C. The SRC shall decide on the basis of the above written statement(s) and, if it deems necessary, any other information it shall gather, whether or not there are grounds to hear a case. Such a decision shall be make within 5 class days after the receipt of the pertinent information described in Item V. B. If the SRC decides to hear a case, it shall so notify in writing all persons directly involved.

D. The decision to hear a case shall be a majority voted of those present at the review of the statement(s) as outlined in item V. B. and C.

E. If the case is voted not to go to a hearing, the case shall then be sent to the Vice President of Academic Affairs for review. He/she shall make a decision within 10 class days after receiving the recommendation as to what action will be taken at that point.

IV. Hearing Committee

A. All grievance hearings shall be held with full knowledge of all those persons directly involved (the grievant and those who made the decisions about which he/she is aggrieved) in the case. Such persons shall have access to all documents submitted in evidence and shall be informed of what witnesses are being heard and the substance of that testimony.

B. The SRC shall be made up of the following members: 3 full-time Faculty members, 3 full-time undergraduate students, and 3 part-time undergraduate students.

C. A quorum shall be made up of five committee members at the least, There shall be at least one person from each constituent present. No person shall be allowed to vote in a deliberation unless he/she has taken part in the hearing and discussion relating to a case. Sbould any member of the SRC be challenged as having vested or personal interest, it shall be up to the SRC to decide the validity of the challenge. If validity is found, action shall then be taken to replace that member with an impartial member.

D. A member of the SRC shall be voted in, by a majority vote, as the chairperson of the committee for a full academic year. This chair will oversee the SRC.

E. For each accepted for hearing, the SRC shall elect a chairperson who shall be responsible for calling and conducting the hearing relating to a grievance and shall be responsible for maintaining written records and communications of the SRC, for that particular case. In no case shall the Chairperson be a faculty member.

V. Hearing Procedures

A. The procedure is intended to be fair, just, and reasonable for all persons involved. In no way is this procedure to be used solely in the dismissal of an instructor.

B. The chairperson, in consultation with the persons directly involved and with the members of the SRC, shall arrange the time and place of the hearing and shall send written notice to all parties involved. the hearing shall begin within 10 class days following the decision to hear the case.

C. Each person directly involved may choose a spokesperson in addition to himself/herself. A spokesperson shall be defined as a regular member of the faculty, staff, or student body of the College.

D. The hearings shall be open to

1.) Hearing Committee members;

2.) person(s) directly involved;

3.) witnesses who are present only while giving testimony or answering questions.

E. Only the grievant and those persons directly involved may call witnesses on his/her behalf.

1.) The Hearing Committee may also call any witnesses to give testimony as relevant to the case at hand.

F. The SRC may ask questions of the grievant, the persons directly involved, and of witnesses.

G. The parties to the hearing may offer such evidence as the SRC may deem necessary for an understanding and determination of the grievance. The SRC may request written or oral statements from any person(s) involved in making prior decisions and may obtain additional information believed to be related to the grievance on their own initiative or upon the request of either party. The SRC shall be the judge of the relevance of the evidence offered.

H. The SRC may develop other hearing procedures as long as they are not in conflict with the principles and procedures presented in this document or in the Student's Academic Rights and Responsibilities.

VI. Deliberations

A. Members of the SRC who have been present at the hearing shall meet in closed session to review the evidence presented and to determine the resolution of the case.

B. Only evidence presented at he hearing can be considered in the resolution of the case.

C. The SRC shall determine by a majority vote of those members present at the hearing:

1.) whether a violation does or does not exist; and

2.) if it exists, an appropriate redress for the grievant and/or a recommendation for a change in policy, procedure or practice.

VII. Findings, Recommendations, and Appeals

A. The findings and recommendations of the SRC shall be communicate in writing within 5 class days of the hearing to the person(s) directly involved.

B. The SRC's recommendation will then go to the Vice President of Academic Affairs and he/she make a final ruling within 10 class days upon receiving the SRC's decision.

1.) The Vice President of Academic Affairs may call to meet with any member involved in the hearing and question his/her for further clarification.

C. The Vice President of Academic Affairs will then make a decision as to what action will be taken within 10 class days from the time he/she receives the SRC's recommendation.

D. Appeal of a decision from the Vice President of Academic Affairs may be made to the President of the College within 5 class days upon receiving the recommendations from the SRC.

E. The President will review all written documents and may contact the grievant, the person(s) involved, witnesses, or members of the SRC to gain any other pertinent information on the case.

F. The President of the College will make a decision on the findings. If the President's decision disagrees with the SRC's decision, then he/she will communicate this to the SRC within 20 class days upon receiving the case. The decision of the President is final. Otherwise, the recommendations of the SRC shall be implemented.

Remember to vote! Elections will be held on March 31, in the Mall Area of the Campus Center.

Arts & Entertainment

March 20, 1998

Sweet Honey In The Rock

Acclaimed A Cappella Group Comes to Northamption

MassConcerts will present Sweet Honey In The Rock live in concert at John M. Greene hall at Smith College in Northamption, MA on Friday, March 27 at 8:00pm.

Reserved seating tickets are $19.50 or $21.50 in advance.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit 88.5 FM WFCR, Public Radio for Western new England. Tickets are on sale at For The Record in Amherst, B-Sides Records in Northamption, and all ProTix Outlets. Tickets may be chargeD by phone by calling ProTix at (413) 732-0202 or (800) 477-6849.

From top clockwise— **Aisha Kahlil, Shirley Childress Johnson, Carot Maillard, Nitanju Bolade Casel, Bernice Johnson Reagon, Ysaye Maria Barnwell** (*photo by Shanon Farmer*)

Sweet Honey In The Rock is a Grammy award-wining African American female a cappella ensemble with deep musical roots in the sacred music of the Black church — spirituals, hymns, gospel — as well as jazz and blues. Sweet Honey advocates social change through beautiful harmonies and stirring lyrics. With 25 years of performing and over a dozen albums, Sweet Honey continues to conquer concert stages with their perfect harmonies and stunningly spun vocals.

During the 1996-7 season, the internationally acclaimed singing group expanded its local following as it toured Europe, performed at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, and shared the stage with the renowned poet Gwendolyn Brooks at the National Black Arts Festival in Atlanta.

Brooks and Sweet Honey received the 1996 National Black Arts Festival Award for Distinguished Achievement.

Sweet Honey's may 1996 European Tour included performances at the Vocal Chords Festival and the Bath International Festival. The ensemble also performed live with Sonia Sanchez, the pairing of Sanchez's dramatic poem "I Had Come Into the City" with Bernice Johnson Reagon's arrangement of the traditional church song "Stay on the Battlefield."

Based in Washington, DC, Sweet Honey's roots are in a vocal workshop founded by Bernice Johnson Reagon at the DC Black Repertory Company in 1973. Twenty-two women have participated in this singing ensemble. The current membership is Bernice Johnson Reagon, Ysaye Maria Barnwell, Nitanju Bolade Casel, Aisha Kahlil, Carol Maillard and Sign Language interpreter Shirley Childress Johnson.

This show is a perfect way to celebrate Women's History Month.

DiFranco Returns to Studio for Album #10

Ani DiFranco's career as a singer, song-writer and guitarist is proof positive that "alternative rock" can mean much, much more than a group of guys with electric guitars and a hefty record contract. In a culture where multinational corporations sing the praises of the "indie" aesthetic. DiFranco has created a truly provocative means of producing music on her own terms and getting it to listeners.

She has broken just about every rule of the music industry, and in the process has paved the way for other artists, emerging and established performers alike, seeking real alternatives to corporate control.

And now she is back with 12 new songs on her tenth solo. *Little Plastic Castle*, which has been called one of the 25 "most anticipated albums of 1998" by *Alternative Press*, hits the streets just as DiFranco's last release, the double live set "Living in Clip," makes its way onto many critics' best-of-1997 lists.

Photo: Albert Sanchez

DiFranco is the album's producer, a role she has played on each of her previous releases. The majority of the material on *Castle* was recorded late last summer and fall at the Congress House, a studio located in an old house in Austin, Texas, where artists have the luxury of residing on the premises and working at their own pace without the sterility of the usual studio setup.

DiFranco's last three albums and several outside projects were also recorded at Congress House, but "This one seemed to happen more organically [than earlier studio releases]," she said.

DiFranco was joined by drummer Andy Stochansky and bass player Jason Mercer, who played with her on her 1997 tours, during which many of the songs were introduced, including the title track, "Two Little Girls," "Glass House," and "Independence Day."

"Jason and Andy and I were a pretty tight unit coming off the road, and so the arrangements changed," DiFranco said. "A lot of musical improvisation went on; it felt to me like the realization of long-standing musical relationships: me and Andy and Jason and Sara."

The "Sara" she's referring to is bassist Sara Lee, known for her work with the Indigo Girls, Gang of Four, and Robert Fripp, who toured with Ani in 1996 and appears on "Living in Clip."

Castle is also the first of DiFranco's albums since "Out of Range" in 1994 which prominently features outside musicians. Drummer Jerry Marotta (Peter Gabriel, Indigo Girls) played on three tracks, and a horn section composed of three Austin session musicians performs on two songs.

But the most distinguished of these great artists was surely acclaimed trumpeter Jon Hassell, the avant-garde composer who has previously worked with such diverse figures as Brian Eno, LaMonte Young, Talking Heads, and k.d. lang.

"I'm a big fan of his work,' DiFranco says. "I've never called up anybody else I didn't know, but I called him and said, 'Hi, I'm little what's-her-face and I'd like to send you a song and see what you think,' and he said, 'Yeah, cool.'"

The result is a sustained, subtle solo on the album's final track, the 14-minute "Pulse," which, like "Fuel," is an example of DiFranco's much-discussed blend of music and the spoken word.

"I've been performing 'Pulse' just as a poem in my shows lately," she said. "The way it was orchestrated on the album was a unique, spontaneous occurrence in the studio. There was a guitar riff I was messing with while we were jamming in the studio, and I started saying this poem. Basically we just jammed for thirty minutes. Then I went back later and edited it digitally down to a concise fourteen minutes."

There was a playfulness in DiFranco's voice as she said that last phrase, and it comes across at various points on the album itself, too.

"This is the most lighthearted album I've made in a long time," she said. "Somebody asked me the other day what this new album is 'about,' and I think maybe they had just come along during *Dilate*, which was kind of 'about' a thing. This one is much more diverse in its subject matter."

After thinking for a moment about a few of the songs' concerns — the impermanence of existence ("Fuel"), mutual respect ("Pixie"), forgiveness ("As Is"), drugs ("Two Little Girls") — DiFranco laughs, "I'm not really interested in nature and trees and children, so I guess human relationships reign supreme, as always."

A Glimmer at Daddy-O's

by Christine Kenney

On February 28, Glimmer made their debut performance at Daddy-O's Coffee house in Springfield. The four man group was greeted by screams of "It's Glimmer Time!" as the crowd anticipated the long-awaited first appearance.

In their first show, the group lacked practical experience, but Glimmer made up for it in their talent and enthusiasm. Their sound is a deep, pulsing rhythm, reminiscent of Indie Rock.

They are influenced by groups like Sabado, but their own sound is definitely present.

The performance was only an eight-song set, but the audience wanted quality, not quantity, and Glimmer delivered.

As the set progressed, Glimmer became more comfortable and played better with each song. While most of the audience had been sitting down to enjoy the previous band, they rose to their feet for Glimmer.

The group has a stage presence beyond other groups of its sort, and interacted with the audience. Some reactions to the band were, "I wanted to hear more," and "if they had a tape I would buy it. Others commented that it was "a really fun show — I wish they would have played longer."

How does Glimmer feel about their first performance at a little downtown coffee house? Bassist Kevin Bell said, "Hey, you've got to start somewhere."

Watch for Glimmer at other venues in the Springfield area, and keep supporting the local talent.

New Artist Not Afraid to be Different

One of the highlights of the February 24 Coffee House event, sponsored by *The Review of Art and Literature*, was the performance of artist A. Frazier, who sang accompanied by recorded music to the audience gathered at the Peoples Place.

Frazier, a New York-based entertainment whose endeavors extend far beyond typical musical artistry, is a mid-20's actor/model/composer who has ventured into several different aspects of the industry.

His work ranges from cameo appearances in Teddy Riley's multi-platinum group "Back Street," to sitcoms such as *Maesha*, *Clauds' Crib*, as well as Davina & Wu-tang video appearances and levis modeling gigs. Frazier has done more than the average aspiring artist.

"It was a nice twist to the

evening," said Anne-Marie Gravel, Editor of the *Review*. "He was certainly different, that's for sure — it's the first time we've had someone who was in movies and videos perform at one of our open mics before."

"My philosophy is, interact with the public on all levels," said Frazier. "Just because lots of people dig my single doesn't mean I should feel above any of my fans. I'd love to perform at every college in America just to be part of the world. It's only fair. You're stepping into my world when you play my music, so, if I'm lucky enough to be invited into their world I'm going to take it and enjoy it.

The oldest of 10 siblings, Frazier feels he has to set an example and be a good leader and a good role model for the family.

Formerly of U.K. recordings, he decided to part and do things on his own after the company folded. His listening track record has proven its success on a small demographic scale already.

If you are interested in hearing Frazier for yourself, you will probably not find his CD at the mall.

You may, however, order a copy of his *Only I* CD by e-mail. Write to duality23@hotmail.com for more information.

Tattoo Craze

by George Semanie

Most people know someone with either a tattoo or some body part pierced. What is it with this new craze? Tattoos are growing like roses in an Italian garden.

Is it the pain of getting a barbell stuck through your tongue that strangely attracts people? How about the rumor that it adds a little something extra to sexual experiences? How do you feel?

Well, you should be used to it by now. A lot of people on this campus have either a tattoo or some part of their body pierced.

A few people on campus explained why, although it is a nuisance to drive to Connecticut to get one, it's still worth the effort.

Jon Thurley, who had his tongue pierced, commented, "I don't know, I just felt like it."

Regina Neto and Sarah Mitchell are both sporting the pierced eyebrow.

"I thought it would look nice," Neto said.

"It was something new at the time I got it done," said Mitchell.

Regarding tattoos, Pete Tseperkas said, "My father hates that I have a tattoo, but if it is something important to you, I don't see any reason not to get it."

Matt DiFranco got a tattoo of a symbol meaning "strength" and said "it was statement, and not many people thought I would get one."

Tattoos and body piercing are rapidly becoming more popular. What is odd, however, is the reaction people have to tattoos.

I am happy when poeple compliment my tattoo, for example, but when others shrug it off, I wonder why.

Are tattoos really so bad? I've found that a large number of adults are curious to know why so many college students are getting tattooed or pierced. My question is, why *shouldn't* they get tattooed? Maybe tattoos are something people shouldn't judge others by — maybe they're just a fad.

Piercing can't be that bad — the rings and hoops can be taken out. They are a temporary fulfillment.

Some spend too much time judging the physical appearances of others. Perhaps they should accept people for who they are on the inside and not the outside.

Open Mic Coffee House in the Peoples Place

by Chandler Goodale

On February 24, at 8:00pm, students gathered for the second coffee house event of this academic year, sponsored by *The Review of Art and Literature*.

The dimly lit room, the incensed air, the clothed tables and the privilege of entering previously student-forbidden territory brought forth an evening powered with mic-dismantling voices.

Professor Janet Bowdan

Ryan Fitzpatrick

opened to a cozy audience of over 60 listeners and participants with the first charge of voice. Her delivery set a forceful pitch which was sustained in the breadth of the performances throughout the night.

Accompanying the free-flowing language of the spoken verse was the crisp harmony of acoustic guitars from Ryan Fitzpatrick and Steven Connely.

Nicole Pizutti and Natalie Pisarcik

Besides an original composition, Fitzpatrick strummed out the contemporary classic "If I Saw You in Heaven."

The vocal rhapsody of the recorded talent Moe Frazier added further to the musical solstice of the event. The misfortune of a recently severed long-term relationship made for some resonating closing notes.

The final bars of singing reverberated through the intimate gathering as Kujano Lyons-Latimer poured out her own version of a cut from Brandy.

It was not until midway into the festivities, however, that the delirious, uninhibited urge for entertainment began to erupt on stage. At 9:30pm Giovani John Campbell read a spontaneously penned poem.

The inspiration, Campbell claimed, came from the provocative, spellbinding atmosphere.

The dramatic duo of Nicole Pizutti and Natalie Pisarcik slapped some humor into the show by pantomiming a narrated story. The highlight of this performance was a gag which carried a liberal interpretation of the story and its narrator.

After a casual break during which students enjoyed some sugar-boosting goods and throat-restoring punch, the night concluded with a final reading of poetry.

The night came to it's finale when Anne Marie Gravel, Editor of *The Review of Art and Literature* and host of the event, read an original work entitled "North Branch Parkway."

In all, it was an intense evening and a real demonstration of talent, insight, and comedy from some first-time performers.

A view of the crowd in the People's Place waiting for the entertainment to begin.

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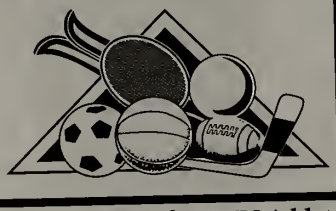
Sports

March 20, 1998



A Day in the Life of a WNEC Athlete

A Personal Perspective

by Natalia Pisarcik

I'll bet 75 percent of you do not know WNEC has a field hockey team. I'll bet 99 percent of you do not know that I'm the goalie. And I'll bet 99.99 percent of you didn't even know what a great season we had. Am I right?

I'll also bet that half of you don't even know what it's like to be an athlete at WNEC, and how much time and effort student athletes contributes to this school, their sport, and their subjects.

I can say this from experience after playing on WNEC's field hockey team for the past three years. A typical season generally strengthens the soul. The season is usually two months long, with practice every day from 3:30 - 5:30. Sundays are generally off to "catch up on homework." Then the season begins with most of the games away.

We pack the infamous WNEC vans with our equipment, supplies and laughter, and head off on our two-hour journey. Most of the rival colleges are 2 hours away — or at least it seems that way.

For a Tuesday or Thursday game we begin our trip around 12:30, after begging our professors to understand the reason we are missing their classes. We then head off to attempt to capture a win for WNEC.

As the vans (generally two per team) pull out onto Wilbraham Road, one van might start to lose gas, or a muffler might even explode, but we still move on. Many of us catch up on sleep, do homework, or sing along to the radio with the blown-out speakers that only seem to be able to find two stations: one playing country, and the other continuously playing Phil Collins.

Finally we reach our destination, generally worn out from the trip, with about half an hour to warm up. Eventually the game starts and the fun begins. But when the game is finished it may be a loss, for the team that just attacked us may have been Division 2 and had 20 girls five times our size beating down on us. Miracles can happen, and have.

We then pile back into the vans — sweat, bruises, and all — and are given a crisp five dollar bill to spend wildly at the next fast food restaurant we approach.

The driver of the van floors it, for everyone is starving at this point, but the van only seems to stay at the speed limit of 50 m.p.h..

Eventually, we find a fast food joint (generally on the Mass Pike) and stroll in. But to our surprise, a simple burger alone seems to cost $5. So, we stuff our faces with the one french fry we can afford and quickly head off to the vans and then head home.

Saturday games are generally the same, but usually are a bit earlier in the morning. And instead of that nice crisp five dollar bill, we are blessed with one of the food service's bagged lunches.

This is how a typical season is with the field hockey team. We aren't given much for all the hard work and effort that we contribute to the school. Instead, we generally hear negative comments because we might not win every single game.

I know for a fact that the field hockey team is not the only sports team at this school that feels this

See A DAY, next page

Men's Vollyball "Setting" New Records

by Ryan O'Connor
Sports Writer

The Golden Bears are rising high on the volleyball court for the first time in Western New England College history. They have a winning record and have achieved their most wins ever in a single season.

The team is currently 6-6 in their division and second in their division.

The players have been giving 100% every match, and when someone is struggling another member of the squad will pick up the slack.

Sophomore Rob Pulsifer has stepped up his game by starting as the new setter.

Pulsifer commented that "this year's team seems to click when we step on the court. It's almost like we know where everyone is at all times, compared to last year's team, which was a rebuilding year."

The volleyball team has been introduced to a new coach and a new coaching style. In his first season coaching at Western New England College, Andrew Aufiero has turned a mediocre team into an impressive above-500 team.

Aufiero has not only coached his players on the court but also mentally. He has taught them about the basic fundamentals of the game, which the players now seem to understand on the same level as the coach.

The six players who have anchored the team are sophomores Mike Pushee and Rob Pulsifer, juniors Matt Domiano and Drew Grant, and senior team leaders Ray Walker and Dino Cencetti.

One player who has improved his game from last year is Mike Pusbee. Pushee is in his second year on the team and has led the squad as the outside hitter despite his bad shoulder.

Another player who has shined this season is senior Ray Walker. Walker has proved to be one of the better middle hitters in the league.

Pulsifer believes that "with the young talented team that we have, if we are not contenders in the playoffs this year, look for us to make an appearance in the next couple years."

One reason for the success of the team is defense. Drew Grant has shown that he is one of the best defensive players on the team. The squad has progressed in many areas over the past year, but there is still room for improvement.

Pushee summed up the season by saying, "We have done a good job in beating the lesser teams in the league, and simply lost to the superior teams, but we are working on competing with the better teams by practicing and conditioning in the off season."

With four matches remaining, the men's volleyball team will make the best of them.

USA Olympic Hockey a Little Sloppy

Team USA's Pathetic Performance Eliminates them from Winter Olympics

by David Wainbarg
Sports Editor

The United States hockey team made an early and unexpected departure from the Winter Olympics, losing 4-1 to the Czech Republic in the quarterfinals.

The Czechs' dominance over the meager USA team was highlighted by Dominik Hasek's 28 saves, as well as goals and assists by Jaromir Jagr and Jiri Dopita.

USA even allowed a goal to Vladimir Ruzicka, who has not played professional hockey in almost 4 years!

The United States was expected to dominate the Czechs from the very beginning, especially since the Czechs lost all three of their games in the World Cup, getting outscored by a total of 17-4.

Believers that this USA dream team would be something spectacular were as wrong as thinking that Jim Carrey did not lie in "Liar, Liar!"

Team USA displayed some enthusiasm to win by scoring the initial goal in three games of the tournament.

Mike Madano scored the first goal against the Czech Republic after receiving a pass from teammate Tony Amonte.

In the second period, USA dominated the scoring opportunities by outshooting the Czechs 14-8. Unfortunately, the Republic netted three of their eight chances in that period.

In the final minute of the second, the United States had a chance to score on a power play when Dominik Hasek was caught out of the net.

As luck would have it (or lack thereof for Team USA) the goalie was still able to make a sprawling save on Doug Weight's shot on goal.

In the final period, the "dominant Dominik Hasek" rejected all 15 of Team USA's shots, including a point-blank range blast by John LeClair in the opening minute of play.

To further degrade our pride in the USA hockey team, several players displayed their true moral values by destroying a motel room they were staying at in Nagano!

Team USA left wing Keith Tkachuk summed up his team's performance at the Winter Olympic games in these poetic, if not subtle words: "I don't think it'll hit for a while. We deserve to be out of it. This is bad for the USA. It's awful, it's devastating. We were just a big disappointment. It was the biggest waste of time. This is disgusting" (America Online).

A Poor Showing in Nagano

by Ryan O'Connor

Watching the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano was about exciting as watching your home videos when you were little. From the opening ceremony to the closing, the Olympics were just not eye-catching this year.

There are a few reasons why the television ratings for the Olympics are way down compared to the past couple years. One reason has do to the time difference between Japan and the United States. Many popular events were held at inconvenient times for most people. The coverage of the Olympics was held on CBS. Although the world was hit by a craze of *curling*, the overall coverage of the Olympics was poor.

Another interesting issue during the Olympics was the speculation at the Canadian snowboarder who had his gold medal taken away for possession of marijuana. However, a committee gave the medal back after they voted that the substance did not enhance the sport, and therefore it was not legal to take his medal away.

Hopefully in the year 2002 the Olympics in Utah will be anything but boring. You never know — maybe by then there will be an Olympic sport involving ballroom dancing on ice!

A Look Back at the Season that Was

A Hockey Season Overview From Ben Barron

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

As the hockey season came to a conclusion, I was fortunate enough to get an interview with Western New England College hockey player Ben Barron. Ben, a sophomore from Richmond, Vermont is a defenseman for the Golden Bears.

Ben Barron (*photo by David Weinberg*)

Ben indicated that the greatest improvement was in the teamwork that he and his fellows players displayed. Coach Mike Badger had molded a squad together to play as a team, rather than as individuals, which is, of course, an essential element for success. Some of the key players were Joel Page, Nathan Stockton, Adam Hoban, and Gary Whittier.

According to Barron, "the team is a bunch of good guys playing hockey as well as trying to get an education."

The major weakness of the Golden Bears was youth. Do to lack of college hockey experience, the Bears were not always so golden.

However, on the other side of the spectrum, youth has its advances.

The younger players learn from the more experienced, so when the veterans move on, the amateurs will be able to "fill their skates" more easily.

Barron further noted that in general, the Golden Bears "met certain expectations, but we did not overachieve or underachieve."

Also, sports took a back seat to academics at Western New England College. For this reason, the coaching staffs were fairly lenient about academic versus sports conflicts, because they realize education comes first, sports second.

Ben noted that coaches do not seem to discriminate against players who have such problems.

Fans attending the hockey games are small but loyal. Although the loyal Golden Bears supporters are very much appreciated, it is encouraged that more people come out and support Western New College hockey. Furthermore, supporting other sporting events on campus is also highly recommended as well!

American Women Make Olympic History

by Natalia Pisarcik

This year, the Olympic hockey that the world would be watching began. The game made history, for it was the first time in the Olympic sport of hockey that women competed for an Olympic medal.

There was reason to feel proud that women are finally playing a "man's sport" in the Olympic games, and that the winner of the female hockey team would skate home with a gold medal. In the final seconds of the historic game, a feeling of victory — for women — permeated the air as the teams competed for the ultimate prize.

The women's USA hockey team defeated the Canadian women's team 3-1 in a game that should mean something to every women in the world. Since 1990, American women have fallen victory to the Canadians in the ice world championships. However, in the 1998 Winter Olympics, women were playing ice hockey, and it was their time to bring home the gold for USA.

In a game that will not soon be forgotten, Canadian head coach Shannon Millet said she felt "emptiness" after being defeated by the United States. However, Miller also said, "I had a feeling of joy go through my body because I realized an Olympic gold medal was being hung on a female hockey player."

A DAY, *from previous page*

way.

So what's my point? My point is that I feel certain sports teams, even though they don't win every single game, deserve praise for their hard work, not scorn. Every single woman on that field hockey team is working hard and is dedicated. And, yeah, we don't win every single game, but does that matter?

This is just a little side view of what it seems like as athlete here. We don't get any special privileges, any scholarships, days off, and most of all, praise.

And I am still confused about why our field hockey team has to wear black uniforms to away games when our school colors are blue and gold.

Anyone else want to comment?

Women's Swim Team Not All Wet

by Samantha Lussier

On February 11, the Women's Swim Team closed out their 4th season with a strong victory over Eastern Connecticut State University. With this victory, the swim team finished one of their best seasons ever.

The Women's Swim Team started the season with six returning upperclassmen and six freshmen, all of whom are strong swimmers. These twelve women achieved new heights when they competed in the first ECAC Division III Swimming Championships, which were held December 5-6 at Springfield College.

This meet was an incredible experience for a young team that is not used to large meets with strong competition.

The swim team made a name for themselves when eight members went on a winter break training trip in Cocoa Beach, Florida. After sharing pool time with a variety of schools, the Western New England College swim team learned new techniques that assisted them throughout the final three weeks of the season.

Two swimmers achieved personal bests when they qualified for and participated in the 1998 New England Championships, which were held February 20-22 at Weslyan College in Connecticut.

Junior Emily Alland broke Western New England College's record in the 200 yard butterfly. Congratulations to both girls for your great swims and terrific seasons.

The 1997-1998 season for the Golden Bear's swim team was a great success and a great deal of fun. Congratulations to Seniors Heather Croughwell, Courtney O'Connell, and Tiffany L'Heureux on their final season. To the freshmen: Good job on your debut season.

Lastly, to our captains Emily Alland and Staci Krueger, thank you for putting up with us this season. You guys are awesome!

The Men's and Women's Teams Bowl On

The Western New England College's Men's and Women's bowling teams participated in the Association of College Unions — International (ACU-I) Region I Tournament held at Dover Bay, NH on February 21.

The WNEC Men's team finished with a nine- game total of 9355 and won gold medals over WPI (9299), Bryant ((206), and Sacred Heart, (8976).

WNEC was led by sophomore communications major Paul Nuzzo, who was the tournament all-events champion for 1991 with a nine-game average of 221.

Close behind him was teammate David Mastropasqua, freshman environmental science major, with 1951, for an average of 216.

It was a total team effort with their teammates, who all contributed big games: Brian Stomwall, 246; Kurt Clark, 237; and Pete Fowler, 236. This helped WNEC's three-game series of 3161, 3077, and 3117 — a team average of 1039 per game or 207 per man per game.

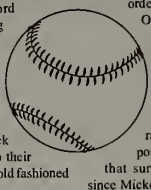
The WNEC women's team was a second place silver medal finisher to Sacred heart, a nationally ranked team. The team was led by co-eaptain Jamie Barras, junior management major, who rolled 1606 in all events, including a fourth place singles series of 583.

As a result of this victory the men's team is eligible to advance to the ACU-I national Team Tournament to be held in Omaha, NB on May 1-2. Paul Nuzzo, the individual all-events winner will be bowling on May 8-9 in the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, NV, when the winners from all 15 ACU-I regions gather for the national tournament.

Bronx Bombers — The Team to Beat in '98?

by David Weinberg

No other baseball team has won more division titles or World Series than the New York Yankees. The Bronx Bombers' most recent championship was in 1996 when they bewildered the heavily favored Atlanta Braves. In 1997, the Yankees finished with an impressive 96-66 record and a .593 winning percentage, finishing only second to the Baltimore Orioles.



Now it is 1998 and New York's boys of summer are back and ready to lace up their cleats and play some old fashioned hardball.

The team was fairly quiet during the off-season, until they made two key acquisitions — they got second baseman Chuck Knoblauch from the Minnesota Twins and center fielder Chili Davis off the free agent market.

Knoblauch is a superior leadoff hitter who will fit nicely into the Yankees starting lineup.

Furthermore, some analysts say with Knoblauch at second base and Derek Jeter at short-stop, the club's stellar new double-play combination is the best in baseball over the last 25 years!

Chili Davis, much like Chuck Knoblauch, is a veteran player who has produced great numbers. Davis is more than an adequate center fielder and is a switch hitter, adding versatility and depth to an already high scoring offense.

"Perhaps no team can match the heart of the Yankees batting order, which features Paul O'Neill, Bernie Williams, Tino Martinez and Chili Davis, all 100-RBI men" (America Online).

In 1997, Tino Martinez joined the ranks of elite sluggers, posting power numbers that surpassed all Yankees since Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris in 1961.

Bernie Williams' tremendous speed in the outfield has him ranked with super-star Ken Griffey, Jr. as one of the fastest outfielders in the game.

The Yankees' pitching is fairly sound with quality pitchers Andy Pettitte, David Wells, and David Cone on the mound.

And if pitcher Hideki Irabu can pitch consistently — rather than hitting Japanese cameramen — the Bronx Bombers will truly be the team to beat in 1998.

VOICE YOUR OPINION WNEC-

WHO DO YOU THINK HAS THE BEST MAJOR LEAGUE TEAM AND WHY?

PLEASE SEND YOUR ANSWER WITH YOUR NAME TO DAVID WEINBERG AT BOX 1451 OR DROP IT OFF IN THE WESTERNER OFFICE — YOUR NAME AND OPINION MAY BE MENTIONED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

Congratulations

To the Winners of the Art IS Money Cover Contest

Grand Prize Winner **-- Jennifer O' Brien**

Second Prize Winner -- Dain Binder

Third Prize Winner -- Natalie Pisarcik

Sponsored by *The Review of Art & Literature*

A BIG THANK YOU goes out from the Admissions Office to the following students who have recently hosted for the CAMPUS OVERNIGHT PROGRAM:

Michelle Antonello
Jared Barringer
Tim Bott
Mike Brittan
Brian Calderone
Andrea Cousens
Suzan DiMarco
Lisa DiTaranto
Ben Drude
Frank Finochio
Jeff Huntgartner

John Hurley
Jason McCarthy
Jake McCluskey
Matt Musumeci
Jeff Natale
Joyce Noe
Stephanie Szajna
Nick Wieczorek
Rachel Willard
Jim Wojtowitz

Our Student Hosts are saying GREAT things about the CAMPUS OVERNIGHT PROGRAM:

"I wanted to give the same good experience to a prospective student as I had last year. I also thought it would be a good opportunity to help out and meet a new friend. I enjoyed meeting someone new, showing him around campus, and introducing him to my friends. I had a great time." — Brian Calderone

"I feel I gained a friend while hosting. It was a great experience. What I enjoyed the most was that I was a help for the student. Any questions she asked I could answer." — Lisa DiTaranto

"I enjoyed giving back to the school. I had a great time." — Frank Finochio

The Admissions Office is still looking for student hosts, especially male hosts! Please call Betsie Rugg or Karen Talbot in the Admissions Office at 782-1321 if you are interested in being a campus overnight host!

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Mark Your Calendars NOW!!

The next *Westerner* deadline is WEDNESDAY March 25, 1998.

Drop off submissions to the Student Publications Office.

Ask Marilyn

Deor M~
Why are most WNEC girls so stuck on their looks?
~Mr. Wondering

Dear Mr. W~
Maybe it is because most WNEC guys only care about a woman's outward appearance! Or, maybe on a larger scale it is because society puts outward beauty as a high priority for social acceptance.

I don't know what kind of answer you are looking for here, but I do know that being outwardly attractive happens to be a huge deciding factor in the dating game; it doesn't matter where you are looking either! In high school the "good looking" people were the most popular, were the ones to go out on dates most frequently, and were the most fun to be around (or so everyone thought); in college it seems as though the more skin you show at the bar the more phone numbers you can take home with you; and in the "outside" world or the "real" world as most people say (as if we are living in a fake world just because we're in college) studies show that the more attractive you are the faster you move up on the corporate ladder. It's sickening really.

What happened to the days when it was a person's inner beauty that made people fall in love with them (want to be with them)? I'll tell you this, it is true that physical attractiveness is what usually lures people to one another, but it's what's on the inside that makes them stay with you, and then the outside appearance ends up being just a bonus!

So, I guess to answer your question "Why are most WNEC girls so stuck on their looks," I would have to say it is because they want you to notice them, to desire them, and who knows where they want to go from there. And hey, on the flip side, maybe they just like to look good for themselves and no body else!

Dear M~
I'm experiencing technical difficulties. My roommate obviously has a problem with me. I feel that she is afraid of me. I don't recall doing anything wrong, but she still acts paranoid around me and spazzes out whenever I'm near.
I wish she would say something or tell me what her problem is. Even when I ask her she won't tell me what the hell is wrong.
Should I just go on and let her spazz and freak-out or should I ask her if she needs Ritalin or to seek professional help?
I might soon have to seek professional help if this persists. Help me Marilyn before I lose my sanity.
~Slowly Losing Sanity

Dear SLS~
Darling, I don't know what to tell you. Other than sitting down and having a (rational) heart to heart (after, of course, bribing her to sit and then tying her to the chair) I really don't know what to tell you.

Maybe the reason she doesn't answer you when you ask her what's wrong is because she isn't comfortable talking to you (face to face) about issues that are bothering her. Have you tried writing her a letter or sending her an e-mail that explains your concerns rather than confronting her verbally? I think that writing your thoughts will give you a chance to think about what you want to say to your roommate; this will also allow you to be more constructive with your criticisms rather than being overly critical.

Sometimes it's hard to confront, or be confronted by a roommate because the idea of confrontation is scary and threatening; maybe this is how your roommate is feeling.

In the future, if I were you, I would try to remain calm and rational when trying to talk to your roommate, and I definitely wouldn't bring up the Ritalin-thing to her. (You might find it funny, but she may not share your sense of humor.)

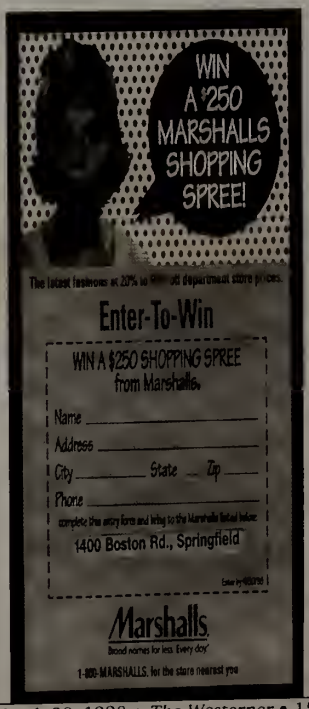
As far as "seek[ing] professional help," why not?! It never hurts to talk to a neutral party about issues such as the ones you are facing. And it definitely doesn't make you crazy for seeking counseling, it actually shows a bit of maturity on your part because you are trying to be proactive about the situation.

However, I do recommend that you try talking to your roommate one more time — don't get discouraged! Just think, the year is almost out, if worse comes to worst you can tough it out and just choose not to live with her next semester. Good luck.

Dear M~
In your opinion what do you think would be the better choice if I had to pick between the ideal sexual playmate or my true soul mate, knowing that my soul mate was not as eye catching?
~Indecisive

Dear Indecisive~
To ask me such a question is so brave, so bold, and yet so stupid all at the same time. I guess you could say I hold little value on the quality of "owning" a play toy for the simple reason that its shelf life is so short. So soon is it that we become bored with the latest model and will once again have to save our pennies to afford the newest model. Why waste your time on a piece of flesh that you are only going to put on a pedestal, when you can have an interactive homely model? Now, I'm not saying that choosing the "beauty" over the "beast" is always going to be the wrong decision, but why can't your soul mate be beautiful too. If she is your soul mate than shouldn't you love her for all that she is, and not looking at all that she is not?! For me, I want someone who is going to love me unconditionally. I don't want him to love me out of pity, spite, or because I could be a wonderful arm decoration. I want to be wanted for what I can offer, both intellectually and physically. Now, if you have a problem with having a soul mate that is not up to par on your physical attractiveness scale, then maybe you should really rethink what is really important to you.

Ask Marilyn is Western New England College's Advice Columnist. Any and all questions for Marilyn may be directed to the Student Publications Office or mailed to box 1419. Marilyn reserves the right to edit any and all letters submitted.



Golden Bear Classifieds

Announcements

3/20 - 3/22, Franklin Hall Weekend.

3/20, Friday's -- Singled Out! Snack Bar 9:00pm.

3/23, Lecture -- Patricia Smith. Sponsored by U&ME, CAB, and Human Relations.

3/27, Friday's -- Singer: Mica Richards. Snack Bar. 9:00pm.

3/27, Last Day to withdraw from a class with a "W" issued.

3/28, Mr. & Ms. WNEC.

3/29 - 4/3, CAB Comedy Week.

3/29, Open House.

3/30, CAB movie -- *In & Out.*

3/31, Student Senate Elections. Proper ID required to vote.

Announcements

4/1, CAB Comedy Nite. 8:00, Dining Room A.

4/1, Deadline for Receipt of Financial Aid Application -- including process FAFSA.

4/1, (OGL) Orientation Group Leader applications available. See Dean Zern's Office for details.

4/1. (FSA) Freshmen Seminar Assistant application deadline.

4/2, Rec Nite -- Games People Play. AHLC.

4/3, Friday's, Sponsored by CAB.

4/3, CCGS Leadership Workshop.

4/4, Boston Trip, Sponsored by CAB.

4/6, On My Own -- AHLC, Wellness.

For Sale

For Sale
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For Sale
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Ball-Python, 3 1/2 Feet, well tamed. Comes with: heating pad, heat lamp, watering rock, tank. $90 for everything, or best offer. Call: 782-7907. Ask for Amy Giroux.

For Sale
X-Country Skiis

Track Spirit nowax, Poles 140 cm, Boots (Italian), Women's 10 - 11. $60 or best offer. Call Anne 782-2681.

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Students Evaluate Public Safety

New Poll Suggests Officers Need to Interact More with Community

by Becky Miskiv, Quyen Bao Nguyen, Brian Swallow, and Denielle Velente

Is it surprising to hear that the majority of students surveyed in a recent poll had negative comments about Public Safety?

Many of them said they wished the Public Safety Officers would get to know them as students, and not just get to know them when something goes wrong.

We conducted the poll during the month of February. The sample group was made up of 15 males and 15 females between the ages of 19 and 21.

In the group were 27 white students, two black students, and one hispanic student.

After the survey, we examined Public Safety's developing mission statement.

Part of the mission involves "community policing," which Public Safety defines as getting to know the students and faculty of the Western New England College Community on a personal level in order to develop trust.

PHOTO / GENE ALLYN

Sgt. Michael Purcell seen speaking with WNEC students

Those in Public safety also hope that this will create an open environment between themselves and the WNEC community so all will feel free to come to Public Safety for any reason at all.

The majority of the students in the survey group that have interacted with Public Safety have had some sort of negative experience. The other students in the group had not had any real interaction with them.

This has led to the suggestion that Public Safety is getting to know students only when there is a situation or crisis, and not by interacting with them on campus.

Some suggested that Public

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Yael Dayan Offers Land for Peace in Israel

by Josh Shear
Editoriol Editor

"Security and an end to terror will be results of peace, not preconditions of peace," Yael Dayan told students, faculty and members of the local community on Thursday, March 19 in Sleith 100.

Currently a member of Knesset, the Israeli Parliament, Yael Dayan is the daughter of the famous General Moshe Dayan, a key player in Israel's founding and early defense.

She has written seven novels, been a journalist, and served in the Israeli army on two different occasions.

Her first experience in the army, in the late 1950s, inspired her first novel, "New Face in the Mirror," published in 1959.

She has lived through all five wars Israel has seen in its brief history, and was a major supporter of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin until his assassination in November of 1995.

Dayan does not support current Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the way he has proceeded with the peace process started by Mr. Rabin.

She believes that Palestinian Liberation Organization leader Yassir Arafat is a partner of Israel in wanting to attain peace in the Middle East.

Dyan believes the phrase "peace at any price" means no peace at all — she doesn't support fighting for peace.

She doesn't believe that anyone should have to sacrifice something necessary to achieve peace.

Dayan began her lecture by speaking of numbers. It has been 50 years since Israel's inception; 100 years since the first Zionist Congress drew up a plan for a Jewish homeland.

Israel has been through five

See DAYAN, page 2

NEWS

April 1998

Students Collect Tabs for Dialysis Patients

by Lisa DiTaranto

Members from the fourth floor of Franklin Hall have been collecting soda can tabs since October 1997.

The fourth floor members, along with help from friends, family, clubs (Helping Hands), staff and members of the Campus Ministry, have collected over seven jugs of soda can tabs ready to be donated to the Ronald McDonald house.

The tab collection is part of an effort to help children who go through dialysis, a medical procedure in which blood is purified and returned to the veins.

The tab collection has been a great experience for the fourth floor Franklin Hall women, who plan to continue to collect the tabs until the end of this semester.

Not only have they been able to help out children in need, but as a floor they have united together for a great cause.

Collection soda can tabs is easy to do, and very simple — but this simple activity will go a long way to help the children who have to go through dialysis.

Those who have participated are very glad to have been able to help.

Meg Kubera and Chris McMahon fill jugs with soda can tabs

Robinson Helps Recognize Women's "Herstory" Month

by Collin James

In an on-going effort to popularized Women's History Month, a number of events and lectures took place at Western New England College in the month of March.

Dora Robinson, a recent guest speaker, intrigued students with her take on the "Emerging Role of Women" in leadership positions on Wednesday, March 25.

She also spoke about her role as a prominent African-American in the Sprinfield community.

Robinson is the Executive Director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center and a part-time teacher at WNEC and other area colleges. A significant portion of her life is dedicated to public service in different organizations: her sorority, two civic organizations, and various boards and task forces.

When she is not busy with these, she is reading "junk novels," she said.

The Local American Girls Scout Council recently honored her as one of the six women of achievement in Springfield.

"Why am I being honored for doing my job? There are many women who are doing tremendous work and also merit the honor," she said when accepting the award.

Robinson emphasized that she colulld not be who she is without acknowledging and recognizing the people who played a role in her life.

In being honored, she thanked the most influential person in her life: her mother. Robinson's mother taught her some basic values about being a women who is able to meet life's challenges.

She also taught her to be prepared and to have a strong sense of self and spirituality, Robinson said.

Robinson spoke of herself as a person who leads by example and tries to stay on the right side of things.

Dora Robinson

By leading by example, Robinson said, other people see it, acknowledge it, and respect it, instead of just hearing it.

She said there isn't anything she will not do to demonstrate her leadership — from taking care of facilities to speaking to children one-on-one on their level.

As an African-American women she sees the world as being dominated by white males who are patemalistic, and she has learned to be more stategic when dealing with men.

Robinson said that women have to develop some kind of "non-sexual" strategy when dealing with men. She mentioned the phrase "look like a women and think like a man" as being offensive to her, but has learned to use the "think like a man" part pf the phrase as part of her strategy to get the job done.

Wheo asked about whether or not she was hurt by racial slurs, she answered "No!"

She admitted that she may be offended, but that she does not give her "power" to people.

Robinson said that when people give up their power, they become vulnerable, and at that point they are in a position to be hurt, taken advantage of, or manipulated.

"Sticks and stones may break your bones but words will never harm you" and "if you wallow in a hole with pigs, you will come out smelling like one" are two of her favorite expressions.

These expressions she attributed to her grandfather, who was very influential in her life.

DAYAN, from page 1

wars since 1948. The population growth of the state has been "unnatural"; people keep immigrating to Israel at an exponential rate.

"One surprising aspect of the do when there is a clash between halachah (Jewish law) and democracy?"

Sometimes the majority of the people disagree with the Bible, and for those instances the word of God should not be the law of

"Security and an end to terror will be results of peace, not preconditions of peace."

the land — rather, the people should choose, she said.

She also gave a timeline of the country, dividing it into three sections. The period from 1948-1973 was "yesterday." Israel was asserting itself as a country and trying to become a power in the Middle East.

The next period from 1973-1982, was a time when Israel thought it was "undefeatable."

The country had not lost a war, and in 1979, it signed a peace treaty with Egypt.

In 1982, Israel attacked Lebanon and found out it was, in fact, defeatable.

Since 1982, Israel has been trying to establish peace with its neighbors, much like it did with Egypt in 1979.

However, Dayan believes that the peace process has been damaged slightly since Mr. Netanyahu has taken office.

Above all, Ms. Dayan wants to keep peace. She doesn't want another war, and believes that Israelis "are not into revenge.

A Jewish mother is the same as a Palestinian mother," she said, and urged that they treat each other as equals, and live together in a pluralistic Israel.

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Alumnus Talks to Students About Minorities on Campus

by Samatha Lusslar

Therapist Mia Davis spoke to a group of students about her graduate thesis, "Black Students on Predominantly White Campuses," on Thursday, March 19.

Davis, a Western New England College alumnus, recently received her Masters degree from Smith College.

She chose the topic for two reasons.

The first reason, she said, was the lack of information on the subject, since African Americans have only been allowed into higher education in the past thirty year.

The second reason, she told students, was the closeness of the subject to her heart.

Davis interviewed 20 women between the ages of 18 and 77 to see how their academic performances and self-esteems were affected by attending predominantly white campuses.

The results varied greatly. Some women experienced serious effects, such as the lack of close personal relationships due to feeling of isolation.

Some women felt to the need to push themselves so their peers would know they "really belonged" in college and were not "there on an Affirmative Action Scholarship."

Some students, Davis found, made many friends and had happy college careers. However, since most of their friends were white they were often called traitors and ostracized from the black community.

Davis was especially surprised by the opinions of one woman who did not acknowledge the existence of racism at all. This student, Davis said, blamed "the appearance" of racist attitudes on other black students, saying that it was some sort of conspiracy.

Davis told WNEC students that this woman was hurt by the truth that there are people in the world who would hate her just because of the color of her skin.

Davis concluded her lecture by advising white professors at WNEC to acknowledge that non-white students in their courses may potentially be uncomfortable in the classroom. being aware of a problem is the first step toward correcting it, she said.

The lecture was sponsored by United and Mutual Equal.

PHOTO/ ANNE-MARIE GRAFEL

A Student With Many Faces

by Ragina Nato

Peter Tseperkas, whom many students know as "Pete the Greek," is a senior at Western New England College. He is half Italian and half Greek and is from Rocky Point, New York. Tseperkas is well-known around campus, and is active in the community.

Last semester, he and other students received the Snookum Award, which recognizes student commitment to academics, co-curricular activities, sports and community service. It is considered an honor to receive this award.

Tseperkas is a biology major and chemistry minor. His has an overall GPA of 3.2.

In addition to having a heavy course load, Tseperkas is involved with many activities on campus. He was an Orientation Group Leader for the summer of '97, a Faculty Student Assistant last summer and he wrestled for WNEC during his freshman, sophomore, and junior years.

He is currently a Peer Advisor, tutor in biology and a Student Ambassador. He also represents WNEC at the open houses. Tseperkas puts a lot of time and effort into this college.

Tseperkas stated participating in SOAR this summer was especially rewarding. "It was the most work and probably the toughest thing I've experienced. Even though it was a lot of work, I got the most satisfaction out of it and it was still fun. Meeting all the people and learning so many new things about myself gave me the biggest reward."

Tseperkas said that he has two mentors on campus. "Dean Zem and Dr. Robert Holdsworth have

PHOTO/ DEAN ZEM

both pointed me in the right direction. They are always giving me advice and encouragement. I don't think I would be where I am today if it wasn't for their support."

Tseperkas' father is from Greece and his mother was born in America. For Tseperkas, like many other students, it was and still is a struggle growing up with parents from different cultures. His parents are great people and love him, he said, but American culture is quite different from European culture.

Unlike many students, Tseperkas applied to college without the help of his parents and is currently supporting himself. He will be the first in his family to graduate from college. This has put a lot of pressure on Tseperkas; although his parents try as hard as they can to help him out, due to many factors, he is on his own, Tseperkas said.

He has lived off campus all year and is awed by the expenses he has encountered. Besides rent and miscellaneous bills, any of the spending money he may need comes out of his pocket as well. Besides tutoring here at WNEC, he works at Sophia's Sports Bar.

Tseperkas has many plans for the future. He has applied to several graduate schools and is waiting to hear from UMass, SUNY Albany, SUNY Binghamton, Tulane and AIC. He really wants to go to the one-year intensive study program at UMass, he said. He also applied for a position at the Sabis International Charter School, opening soon in Springfield.

His goal is to be a high school biology teacher and a varsity wrestling coach. Although he would prefer to go to New York, he is willing to start anywhere.

Tseperkas said that he believes his greatest accomplishment at WNEC was probably making it through the first semester of his freshman year because it was the hardest thing to do.

"Because I didn't put a lot of myself into my first semester, I had to struggle," he said. "I found myself caught up in extra-curricular social activities. If you put time and effort into your studies, as well as the other aspects of college, then you will appreciate and benefit from your time here."

News Briefs

Have you ever tried calling a radio station so you could be that "special caller" who would win whatever the station was giving away? Well, one of our very own students, David Roach, who resides on campus in Berkshire Hall won a computer from WMAS, 94.7, because he was the 9th caller.

At first Roach had only won tickets to the Home Show, but at the end of the week the station had a drawing of the weekday winners and Roach's name was drawn as the winner of a computer, a $250 certificate to a furniture store. and a ceiling fan.

So, the moral of the story folks It can happen to you, too!

"What Diversity Means To Me?" Contest. Deadline for submission is April 3rd. Bring submissions to the Residence Life Office. Judging will be held on April 7th.

"Pie in the Eye" Contest. April 9th from 12:15 - 1:15 pm. -Volunteers Wanted, call 782-1480.

Commencement Assistants Needed for Saturday, May 16. Assistants are needed beginning at 9 am. Sign up in Student Activities by April 20th. For any questions, see Maureen Keizer, Director of Student Activities.

Positions available: Yearbook Editor-In-Chief and the Review of Art & Literature Editor-In-Chief. Applications are available in the Student Actitives Office 2nd floor of the Campus Center. Application deadline has been extended: Wed., April 8th at 4:30 pm. Sign up for an interview time when you drop off your application materials.

SURVEY, from page 1

Safety read over their mission statement an make greater attempts to get involved with the college community.

The survey showed that approximately 80 to 90 percent of students have had some sort of experience with Public Safety, yet only 40 percent have had what could be deemed "positive" experiences.

Of these 40 percent, females seem to have had more positive experiences with public safety. 65 percent claimed to have positive experiences, but only 35 percent of the males made the same claim.

More than half of the students — 60 percent — have had a "negative" experience with Public Safety. 80 percent of these students were males, and only 20 percent were females.

Of these 80 percent males, almost all have had negative experiences with Public Safety due to housing violations ranging from drugs to alcohol.

Students' views of Public Safety's availability varied. Half said that Public Safety officers are readily available and quick to help; half said Public Safety was not readily available and did not respond quickly enough when needed.

The analysis of the officer(s) with whom the students had their experiences was similar. According to the survey, it seems more likely that a student will encounter a white male officer in his 30s to 40s, but there were instances of encounters with younger male and some female officers.

Some students also suggested that at times the officers treated females differently because of gender.

The students also expressed their views about the officers' attitudes. About half of the students — males and females — felt they were not treated fairly; the other half felt they were.

Also, half of the students felt discriminated against by Public Safety. Those who did not feel discriminated against, however, were mostly male.

Some male students felt that Public Safety did discriminate against them because of their clothing style. According to these students, the officers with whom they were involved said they looked like drug dealers.

Most of the students felt that Public Safety could make them feel more comfortable by being more professional and more personable.

About 75 percent of the students who were interviews did have positive comments about Public Safety, despite the fact that 85 percent said they do have complaints as well.

The most common areas needing improvement were, according to both male and female students, the lack of professionalism and the "power trips" officers sometimes exhibited.

On a scale from one to five, with one being excellent and 5 poor, the average rating students gave Public Safety was three. The most important suggestion from the students was the need for "community policing," which Public Safety seems to be working on.

The officers do a good job, some said, but need to listen to and establish personal relationships with the students.

Those in Public Safety would seem to agree, since their developing mission statement reflects a desire to interact with students on a more personal level.

Surviving With A Double Major

by David O'Quinn

Back in 1994, while other freshman were complaining that it was hard being away from home and their old friends, Anthony Pivero started taking action to make sure he kept on top of the game. He became the Vice President of his class his freshman year, and Alpha Lambda Delta awarded him in Freshman High Honors Society.

Pivero's next semester will be his last with a double major in computer information systems and accounting, a program that takes five years to complete. When he graduates, he will be leaving behind a big gap at Western New England College.

He has been:

-Vice President of his class from his freshman up to his senior year
-Vice President of the Internet Association
-Creator and editor of both the Weekdays and Weekender
-Committee member of Dean's Commission, Student Senate, Student Senate Treasure/Finance, Campus Activities Board, Accounting Association, Helping Hands Society, Campus Ministry, Institute of Management Accountants, President's Inaugural Celebration, and World Game
-Lecturer at his former high school through the Boomerang Program
-Representative of 1997-1998 Becker CPA Review Course Campus
-Desktop Publisher for ACUI Database and Drug & Alcohol Statement for WNEC

PHOTO BY DAVID O'QUINN

Pivero feels his experiences at high school in his hometown of Pittsfield, Ma have shaped his drive here at Western New England College. He adds, "it prepared me academically, emotionally, and physically for college."

So you might think a guy like this might be somewhat uptight? He enjoys the movies and has contributed his $7.50 five times to the $350+ million *Titanic* box-office receipts. He is also remarkably upbeat about his life. If asked when he ever wants to just give in and quit, he says, "Life is all about choices. If you say it sucks, it's because you have chosen it that way." He has done a lot of volunteer work such as serving on the College Community Service Board and attending their conference, volunteering at the 1996 Crop Walk and Christmas Party for The Gray House, and 1997 Special Needs Dinner Dance and Ring Health Care Center.

When all is said and done, Pivero aspires to be the next Bill Gates. His ultimate goal would be the CEO of a company thriving in the computer business. His extensive background in system language application, networking, computer configuration, desktop publishing, and the internet resulted in his teaching a CIS course to the faculty last Spring Break.

Pivero leaves these words to anyone who wants to follow in his footsteps, "Be open and honest, and never loose track of who you are or why you are here." Clichéd as it might sound, it has been what has motivated him every day.

Dear Senior Class,

The end is near. Soon you will be a college graduate looking back on what you did in four years.

Why not top off these memories with ones from the Senior Formal and Senior Week - two of your last events as a college undergraduate student.

For Senior Week, there are four packages to choose from, and Senior weeks lasts from May 9th to May 16th. See the bulletin board outside of the Snack Bar for details.

As for the Senior Formal, the cost of tickets is $35 per person. This cost includes your meal, souvenir, entertainment (D.J.), and an amazing night of memories.

Deposits for both Senior Week and the Senior Formal are due by April 3rd. You will have until April 17th to complete all payments.

Tables will be set up in the mall area and other details on how to finish payment will be given out soon.

So, go to the Senior Table today and buy your Senior Events tickets. Its your last chance to get involved.

Thank you,
Senior Class.

Performance Slated

Airmen of Note, the premier jazz ensemble of the United States Air Force, will give a FREE performance on Wednesday, April 15, at 7:30PM, in Chapin Hall at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, MA. Tickets will be limited to four per person, on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the following address: Airmen of Note, Bravo Enterprises, P.O. Box 30454, Springfield, MA 01103.

The concert is sponsored by Student Activities and Porter Hall of Mount Holyoke College, Department of Music and Dance/ UMass Amherst, and Bravo Enterprises.

This Ad Space Could Be Yours. Contact *The Westerner* Staff @ 782-1580 for details.

"Dirty Laundry" Airs Out Campus Center

Controversial Tee-Shirts Bring Awareness of Domestic Violence

by George Semenie, Jr.
Arts & Entertainment Editor

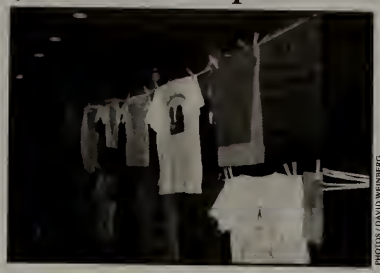


PHOTO / DAVID WENBERG

As you may have noticed, there was a plethora of slogan-covered shirts on hanging in the campus center not so long ago.

Public Safety Officers were also in the mall area.

The shirts, designed by victims of domestic violence and abuse, were there to provide information about the violence that occurs to so many women throughout the country.

In celebration of Women's History Month, Yvonne Bogle had permission to hang these shirts for the students to read and think about. Maureen Keizer and Sara Weinberger, who made connections to get the shirts and their messages to WNEC, assisted with the project.

Students were seen walking through the rows of shirts, reading, and pausing to think about what the message was conveyed.

For three days the opportunity to read and ponder the shirts written message was given to the WNEC and Springfield community.

There were two-hundred and fifty shirts on display from the total five hundred. The shirts were made by families, children and survivors. Opportunities for students to make shirts was given and taken advantage of. Two students shirts for the display.

Most of us are fortunate that we don't have to worry about those things happening to us, or our families.

Bogle holds men with an awareness of the issues presented in high regard.

Not all feedback about the Clothes Line Project has been positive, however. In a letter to the editor of the *Gardner News*, one spectator criticized the "gross images of abuse, rape, and incest" and accused the project for "promulgating these stereotypical and inaccurate perceptions."

According to the editorial, "women are just as abusive as men."

The event was not so critically received at WNEC, however.

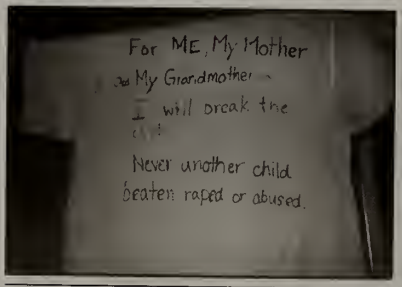
Sean Boucher, a junior marketing major, said that "we really need to pay more attention to the violence that happens to women and their families. It needs to stop!"

Bogle was pleased to see women and especially men agree with the message, and has received positive feedback about the project.

However, more can be done, she said.

The Public Safety officers were present to offer comments and information about the violence that occurs with women.

Advice for women on how to avoid any unnecessary conflict can also be sought out be contacting Public Safety.



Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth Holds Statewide Hearing and Conference for "Safe Colleges" Program

Gay, Lesbian Students Testify

(Boston, MA) — The Massachusetts Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth held a statewide hearing and conference, and will be holding regional workshops this spring as part of its Safe Colleges Program for Gay and Lesbian Students. The Committee on Higher Education of the Governor's Commission has been working in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Tufts University to organize the events.

"Safe Colleges is a statewide effort to protect the health, safety, and well-being of gay and lesbian youth in public and private higher education, through faculty and staff training, curriculum reform, and the establishment of gay and lesbian support networks on campus," said Ed LeMay, chair of the Governor's Commission Higher Education Committee. "Massachusetts is the first state in the nation to undertake this type of ground-breaking work on college campuses."

The events were kicked off with a hearing and press conference Friday, March 27, 1998 at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, in downtown Boston. The Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth heard both positive and negative testimony from gay, lesbian, and bisexual Massachusetts college and university students about their experiences on campus. In addition to student testimony, political and university representatives and Commission members spoke on behalf of the initiative. A variety of members of the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community and the media were also present at the event.

The following day, March 28, 1998, "Sound Mind, Sound Body, Sound Off," a statewide conference on gay and lesbian issues on colleges campuses was held at Tufts University in Medford, MA. This conference included expert panels on inclusive health and counseling services; non-sexist, non-homophobic athletic programs; quality residential life; maximum safety, minimum harassment; organizing a GLBT student center; GLBT topics across the curriculum; and celebration multiple minorities — making coalitions. Singer/ songwriter Catie Curtis was also in attendance and performed that evening.

In addition to the events of March 27, 28, regional workshops for campus change will be held at the following locations: Massasoit Community College, Brockton (April 3), UMass/Lowell (April 17), UMass/ Amherst (April 23), and Harvard University (April 24).

For more information please call 617-491-5301.

Technological Equipment Wanted!

by Jennifer Hestings

The Student Disability Services office, located in Deliso Hall, is currently writing a grant in order to receive some technological equipment. It is the responsibility of the SDS office to strive continually to provide a quality education for students with learning disabilities. The technological equipment will be used to enable students with disabilities to increase their level of college success.

The SDS office is hoping to receive a Pentium PC processor, color scanner hardware, and Kurzweil's Omni 3000 software.

The Pentium PC Processor will be for the SDS office to use in order to help students with learning disabilities write papers.

The color scanner will allow students to scan material such as texts and photos to enhance their written work.

The Omni 3000 includes a speech component that will let a student hear his or her own written material, as well as material scanned from other documents. It also includes a dictionary and many other options.

This equipment would benefit the SDS office in many ways. Bonni Alpert, the director of the SDS office stated, "Our responsibility is to provide reasonable accommodations on a case-by-case basis and to provide and equal opportunity to participate in the institution's programs, activities, and services." She also added that the technological equipment "would all students with disabilities to communicate more effectively with their environments."

Anyone interested in learning more about the technological equipment or about the Student Disability office is encouraged to call 782-1257 or 782-1528.

The next *Westerner* deadline is Wednesday, April 8.

The release date is Friday, April 17.

EDITORIALS

April 3, 1998

Dogging it at WNEC

Mandatory attendance. What is the significance of this rule that some professors force upon their students?

Is it to make sure the students get the most education they can possibly receive at WNEC? Or is it to ensure that some classes actually have the students attending?

Whatever the reason is, there has to be some give and take as far as the professors' leniency goes.

For the past month, I have been sick as a dog and still attending classes. I realize how important it is to be in classes in order to learn the material, but it gets ridiculous to attend classes when you are sick just to make the attendance policy. When this happens, you do not learn anything because you only end up falling asleep during the first five minutes of class.

If I could have just stayed in bed for one day without losing points toward my final grade, I would have been feeling much better by now.

From the professors' point of view, I can see why they want the attendance policy. This way they have some control over how many students are going to class so the professor does not come into an empty classroom.

Students pay for going to classes, so they should put forth an effort to make sure they are attending.

What I think is outrageous is professors who take off points from the students' final grades when students miss classes. but, if they don't go to class, they are not going to do well anyway because they are missing so much information.

I respect that some professors will give extra points for perfect attendance because as students, it gives us an incentive to go to every class.

But when professors need a note from a dean or a doctor in order to excuse an absence, many students will go to classes sick and not learn anything during that time.

If students miss classes, they are expected to make up the work. Isn't that enough? College is supposed to teach students how to be responsible, so giving them the responsibility to make sure they attend classes should be on their hands, not the professors'.

Professors have enough to deal with besides making sure their students are going to their classes, and students have enough to worry about besides making sure they drag themselves to class when they are sick as dogs, and should be staying in bed to rest.

It is time for the students to take more pride in their education by making it to classes for themselves, not for a final grade. Sunny days should not be a student's excuse not to go to class, but sometimes a break is needed to keep one's sanity.

Until students take more pride and take action for their responsibilities, it does not seem that mandatory attendance will be leaving the classrooms soon, and students who are ill and cannot afford to lose points on their final grade will continue to dog it to class.

Heidi Drawec

Your name and opinion belong on this page! Submit your editorials to the Student Publications Office or e-mail them to westedit@hotmail.com. You can call 782-1580 or send e-mail to the above address if you have any questions.

Looking to purchace a new car? Test drive a Saturn.

I've seen the doughnuts. I've seen the cheerleaders. I've bought my first car.

It was a much less painful experience than I'm sure most people have when they search for a new car. I went out on a snowy Sunday with my dad and a short list of cars I figured I could afford with a loan. Our first stop was a Chrysler and Plymouth dealer. Neons are everywhere you look on the road, zipping by with that cute little smile that endeared the cars to the world with the "say bello to Neon" adds several years ago.

After I gave the dealer a terribly low estimate of what I thought I could spend (figuring he'd bring me up) and what I wanted in a car, he started giving me his schtick. The Neon is a great starter car, inexpensive, and "it even comes in a wide range of colors!" Yes, I've seen the pink, the lime green, and that nasty light purple that would look great in a shirt, but a car is just too much of that color for the eye to take. A simple blue or a dark green would do me fine, thanks.

By the time he had cleared the snow off a few of these cars, he took a breath. He grabbed the key to one (the color was called jade, but it looked more like someone ate a Smurf and then regurgitated), and I was behind the wheel. How exciting. He didn't stop talking, I don't think, but I couldn't really hear him over the engine. Granted, it was a car meant for test-driving, so people had ground it into the ground, but I found it loud and uncomfortable.

The dealer stopped talking long enough to get his manager to give me some price quotes and negotiate a little bit, but in the end, my father and I left with two business cards, smirks on our faces, and a mutual feeling that we had just wasted two hours.

We broke for lunch (grinders), and headed to the local Saturn dealership. You've seen the commercials; "a different kind of company, a different kind of car." The atmosphere is really laid back, the whole team gets together to watch you drive your car right out of the showroom, and they've always got coffee ready for you. Guess what? It's all true!

We walked in, asked to be shown some cars, and were introduced to Jon. He sat us down, asked what I was looking for, and handed me a price chart. The prices of Saturns are not negotiable, so we knew exactly what we were getting into from the start. The first car Jon showed us was a car that was half-naked. The passenger side had no door panels, there was no hood, and one of the air bags had been inflated. He showed us the engine and where everything is situated under the hood. He showed us the steel side beams that the company brags about in the commercial. We saw the trunk space. We saw the steel space design Saturn had bought from Volvo.

The next thing Jon did was pick up a door panel and hand it to me. It weighed less than your average textbook. He took it back, and stepped on it, pulling the sides up. He said, "if you get hit from the side, the steel bars protect you. The door panel just cracks - our mechanics stick a new one one in a few minutes, rather than spend-

See SATRUN, page 8

–John Katzman, Founder & President of The Princeton Review

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THE PRINCETON REVIEW

It Comes Around Every Year

O.K. people, so it's that time of year again when you don't know half the movies that have been nominated.

Yes you guessed it, Oscar time. So why do we tune in, if we do? Especially this year when most of us knew that *Titanic* would sail away with almost every award.

So why did we watch the 70th annual event? Well because it's so damn funny with Billy Crystal and to see all those movie stars and bla, bla, bla.

So it's 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time and after five hundred commercials of crap we finally start the show. Four hours later - it's over.

So this year we decided to give out our own awards for the funny stupid crap that goes on at this glamorous gala.

O.K. first award - most annoying pre-show announcer. Two way tie between Joan Rivers and her daughter. Does anyone care? I didn't think so.

Next - what about Dustin Hoffman? He grabbed an award for worst hair. And I could have sworn he was talking about "Premature ejaculation?" The man seemed a little intoxicated. I mean, he couldn't even read the teleprompter!

Cher - what isn't there to say about Cher. She ran away with the best hat that looked like a wicker chair, and best space suit. But I'm sure you people couldn't have called that one.

Madonna, Madonna. What a babe. She was able to get our best Zena impersonation, best cleavage (Sorry, wasn't that the Judd cbick?) and best attitude while announcing an award in which she said "What a shocker?" after knowing *Titanic* won another award.

Best bathroom break of the night - the singing of that *Anestasia* song.

Most annoying commercials - Revlon, and some dumb car commercial that was trying to make their jingle sound like a Chumbawumba song.

Best part of the whole show - Mike Myers (Austin Powers) announcing an award. Isn't he just groovy baby! Yeah! Ohbehave!

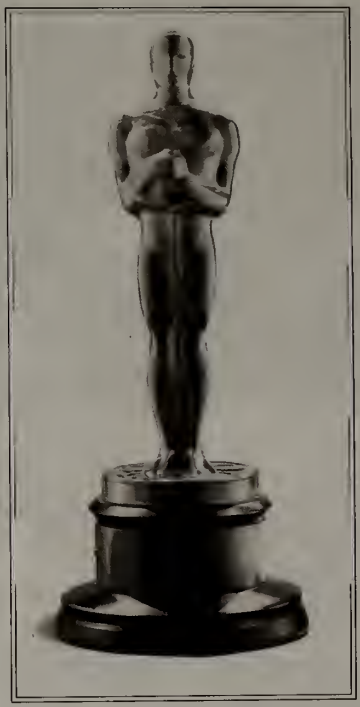
Anyway as the night came to a close, Titanic won eleven awards; Robin Williams finally won an Oscar ("When I told my father I wanted to be an actor he said 'Wonderful, but have a back up profession like welding.'").

Jack Nicholson won again, thanking everyone for looking so good. Typical Jack - but that's why we love him.

That's about all the excitement that appeared on that long night. I have this feeling that three-fourths of you didn't even watch the damn thing and your saying what the heck is she writing about???

Well this should give you more encouragement that you sbould ALL watch the 71st annual Oscar even next March.

Natalie Pisarcik



And the Winner Is...

Okay, okay. We all know that this is old new but I feel the need to rack on the Academy Awards. I love them - and I hate them. They are the most important television event of the year for me and all the other obsessed people in this land. I start with a weeks worth of all the "Who's Gonna Win?" shows hosted by Gene Shalet, Joe Some, Siskel & Ebert, Bert & Ernie, et cetera. I make sure that I have seen every movie up for best picture so that I will not have a biased opinion. Then I can cast my vote. All right, I guess I am not really "casting my vote" since no one really cares what I think anyway, since I am not part of the almighty *Academy.* A mere five thousand people get to vote for an entire industry - I thought we lived in a democracy?

Anyway, when the big day roles around, usually some star studded night in May, I am sure to start by watching Joan Rivers on channel E!, as she stops all the guests as they approach Shriner's Auditorium. She asks them annoying little questions like, "Who are you wearing?" Who cares Joan? Armani, Versaci, Donna Karen, Bradley's, K-Mart's Kathie Lee line - So what! Some interviewer you are Joan. Why don't thing good like who they think is going to win, who they slept with last night, where is the big party tonight, who will pass out first, etc. Joan, get better questions.

At about 9 p.m. the show begins. Billy Crystal bost for the umpteenth time. He waltzes in with some grand, usually comedic entrance. He racks on the top five movies in great style. He's terrific. So, through a few good awards, a bunch of boring awards, about ninety Titanic awards, tons of terrible speeches, a sight of Antonio Banderis, and hundreds of stars, the show wraps up and the crying and/or partying begins.

And the next day, after the hangovers disappear, the gowns and tuxedos are put away, and the winners have placed their shiny new Academy Awards on the mantle, everyone gets back to work. Each one sets out to give their best performance or make the best picture or create the finest cinematography for next year's Academy Awards.

Nicole Pizzuti

Western New England College Celebrates 100th Anniversary of Social Work Profession

For everyone who does not know, March is a month to be proud of — March is National Social Work Month!

The profession has been recognized for 100 years. Social work is defined as any organized service or activity designed to improve social conditions in a community.

Social workers deal with society's most intractable problems, working with troubled children and families, organizing communities for change, doing cutting-edge research, and helping to alleviate social problems.

Unfortunately, many people take what social workers do for granted.

For example, laws concerning minimum wage, child labor, social security, Medicare and Medicaid, Head Start, the 40-hour work week, unemployment insurance, disability benefits, humane treatment for people with mental illness, and protection for abused and neglected children, all exist because social workers sought to remedy injustices and inspired others to do the same.

Social work has made an impact on the public, professionals, homemakers, the government, and even our president. Social workers helped President Franklin D. Roosevelt implement the New Deal to fight poverty during The Great Depression.

Social worker Harry Hopkins headed two major relief programs: the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and Works Progress Administration.

Junior Social Work Class celebrates 100th anniversary of their profession

In 1933, Roosevelt appointed social worker Frances Perkins to be Secretary of Labor. She was the first woman to head a cabinet agency. Perkins advocated improvements in working conditions, including a minimum wage, maximum work hours, child labor legislation , and unemployment compensation.

Social work as a profession has advanced and progressed through the years, and is now listed as one of the 25 best jobs for the future.

It is a growing profession; the U.S. Department of Labor projects there will be about 650,000 social workers by the year 2005 — more than a 30% increase over a decade!

A growing elderly population, the AIDS epidemic, welfare reform, child abuse and neglect, violence and economic insecurity are creating an increasing need for social workers.

Social workers are everywhere — in private practice, family counseling centers, hospitals, nursing homes, schools, prisons, corporations, child welfare agencies, and other public and private agencies as well.

So, happy hundredth birthday to a terrific profession: social work!

And 100 more to follow!

Staci Kreuger and the Junior Social Work Class

Editorial and Opinions Editor Josh Shear buys a brand new car — just like in the commercials

SATURN, from page 6

ing hours trying to hammer out dents." Okay, but does it work when it's on the car? We found out that it does when he walked over to another car in the showroom and punched the door a few times. He told us, "if you get mad, take it out on the car — you won't dent it."

Jon then excused himself for a moment. Someone was picking up a new car, and the whole staff was gathering in the separate wing built for cars to be "launched" from. They gave the driver a cheer, opened the doors, and watched her drive right out of the showroom.

Next came the test drive. My father was ushered into the front seat, something the other dealer hadn't allowed. The car drove much more nicely than the Neon did (though not as well as a Cadillac, probably).

When we got back to the showroom, my father and I asked for some time to discuss the car. I asked what the downside of buying the car right then was, and be couldn't find one. In fact, he was ready to buy one on the spot, too. All in all, the car came to a bit more money than I was hoping, but I believe that I got a good deal. I was even able to pick it up four days later - that was after applying for a loan, closing the loan, getting insurance lined up for it, and letting them do all the work to get it registered and inspected.

So, if you're looking for a new car, give a few kinds of cars a shot if you like, but make sure you check out a Saturn. The people are friendly, they don't pressure you into buying a car you can't afford (their commission is the same if they sell a $2,000 car or a $20,000 car), and they'll probably have your favorite doughnuts waiting for you.

Josh Shear

Interracial Dating

Does it really matter in 1998 if the person I date is Black, White, or Asian? What about if they are Italian, Polish, German, or Portuguese?

To some of us this question seems ludicrous and absurd, but to others it's a factor they must consider. I was assigned to do a persuasive speech in my oral communication class. I decided to do my topic on interracial dating. My thesis statement was: After listening to my research and opinions on interracial dating, you will be able to see love in the original broad definition it was meant to be taken as.

I believe that you truly cannot control whom you fall in love with. This explains why you think that guy or girl is so gorgeous, and question why he or she is going out with that person who is not as attractive as you would think his or her mate would be. If you have blond hair and blue eyes and everyone loves you, there is no way you can predict you will fall in love with someone else who possesses blond hair and blue eyes. Do you agree? Most would. Why, then, do we have to distinguish even further to "I'd never be with a Puerto Rican?" How do you know?

In my class I had to do an audience survey. Five out of fifteen surveyed stated their families would not support their interracial relationship. Two said they would never consider dating interracially. I was a little surprised because I always assumed a person had to be racist to take a stance like that. How can I try to persuade people who have already made up their minds on a subject to see the other side of the coin?

I began the speech by writing my first and last name on the board; then I said, "As you can see by my name on the board, I am Irish." There weren't too many ale-drinking, potato-eating Blacks in Ireland before my mom was born. My grandfather was mulatto. His father was Irish, and his mother was Black. My grandmother was Indian and Black. Can you just imagine if my paternal grandparents thought like those two people in my class? I wouldn't be writing this story today.

Lynn Norment states in the November 1994 issue of "Ebony" that 1994 celebrated the 27th Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that declared unconstitutional laws barring racial intermarriages in Virginia and 15 other states. This ruling came after a Virginia biracial couple Richard and Mildred Loving challenged the state's 1924 antimiscegenation statue.

See DATING, page 18

DNA-Testing Editorial Missed Some Facts

I am writing this editorial in response to the editorial in the last issue of The Westerner titled "DNA Testing Wrong." First, I want to correct a few facts that were printed in the article. The article stated that only people in prison are currently being tested. This is not so. At the moment, samples of DNA are not only being taken from individuals in prison, but mostly from individuals on probation and parole. The courts in Massachusetts have only recently, within the past two years, accepted DNA matches from such databases. The reason they had not accepted them in the past is the courts believed the database collection was too small.

The person who wrote the article stated that he or she did not want his or her DNA taken as a sample by the government. The major concern the person expressed was that s/he did not want his or her DNA sample compared to those from a crime scene because "what if some [of my own] DNA is found there by accident?" The person then goes on to suggest that if s/he is at a bank and some eyelashes fall out and the bank gets robbed, s/he doesn't want to stand as a suspect.

There are obviously a number of other factors that go into solving a crime besides someone's eyelashes or hair being at the scene. For some reason, I don't think the teller is going to identify this person as one of the robbers wearing a mask and carrying a gun, nor are the video cameras or any of the witnesses. A lot more goes into solving a crime than just the fact that someone was there. If this was the case, thousands more would be considered suspects of a crime.

This person then goes on to say that while s/he "believe[s] that people who commit crimes, particularly violent crimes, do forfeit some of their rights. I think there needs to be some right to privacy...even in jail." First, my question is: which rights do they lose, and which do they keep, then? Another question is: what does this person think about fingerprinting? Thousands of people are fingerprinted every day when they are arrested, regardless of whether they are found guilty in a court of law. Many children, when they were little, had their fingerprints taken in order to help identify them if they were ever kidnapped. Is this a violation of privacy as well, or is this a needed tool? How many crimes have been solved through fingerprint identification? Fingerprints, similar to DNA, are extremely unique. No two are the same.

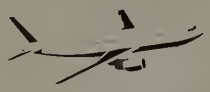
As an honest question, if you believe that criminals should not have a sample of their DNA taken; would you feel the same if you, your mother, or your sister was sexually abused and the offender was not caught until this had happened to six more women? However, when the offender was caught it was discovered that s/he had been convicted of this crime before, but because the authorities could not have a DNA sample from the offender they were not able to catch him or her until it was too late for seven women, including one of your loved ones?

I am not saying that the government should be taking DNA samples from the general population, nor am I saying that it shouldn't. I don't know. That is a very tough question, and one that cannot be answered without a lot of thought. However, I do believe that when a person commits a crime and is in prison, s/he has lost all but basic rights (e.g. protection against cruel and unusual punishment, etc.), and as a precautionary measure to society and as a tool to law enforcement, a sample of DNA should be taken from criminals.

Brett Martin

Special Section

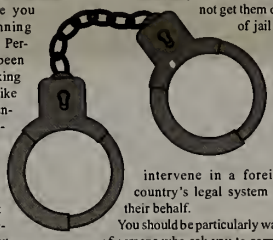
Travel



April 3, 1998

American Drug Arrests Abroad, Don't Let It Happen To You

Each year more than 2,500 American citizens are arrested abroad. Over one-third of those arrested were held on charges of using or possessing drugs. We know that many college students plan to travel abroad during their spring and summer breaks. Maybe you have been planning your trip all year. Perhaps you have been buying and packing necessary items like a toothbrush, sunscreen and sunglasses.



We hope you will think twice before packing something that will not only destroy your trip, but could easily ruin your life. You should be aware that there are increased efforts by many countries to stop the flow of illegal narcotics. If you think there is no real danger in buying or carrying just a "small" amount of drugs on your overseas trip, you might be in for a very unpleasant surprise. Americans have been arrested for possessing a little as a third of an ounce of marijuana.

You might assume that, as an American citizen, you are immune from prosecution under foreign laws and that the U.S. Constitution follows you wherever you go. Unlike the United States, few countries believe "you are innocent until proven guilty." The truth is that Americans suspected of drug violations can face severe penalties, even the death penalty, in some foreign countries. It is not uncomroon to spend roonths or even years in pretrial detention, only to be sentenced to a lengthy prison stay without parole in a foreign jail. Conditions in foreign jails and prisons are frequently substandard.

Once you leave the U.S. soil, U.S. laws and constitutional rights no longer apply. U.S. consular officers can visit jailed Americans to see that they are being fairly and humanely treated, but cannot get them out of jail or intervene in a foreign country's legal system on their behalf.

You should be particularly wary of persons who ask you to carry a package or drive a car across the boarder. Once that package or anything in the car is in you possession, you become responsible for it. You will be blamed for it, no matter who has put it there. You might unknowingly become a narcotics trafficker.

To local authorities, ignorance is not an excuse. You will have to pay the fine and may even spend time in jail for a crime that you did not know you committed.

If for medical reasons you must take medication or other prescriptions containing narcotics, carry a doctor's certificate attesting to that fact and keep all medications in original and labeled containers.

Getting involved witb drugs abroad can destroy not only your future but your life.

For further information contact:

Bureau of Consular Affairs
Office of Public Affairs
(202) 647-1488

Plan Ahead to Have A Safe Trip Abroad

U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Consular Affairs Offers Practical Advice

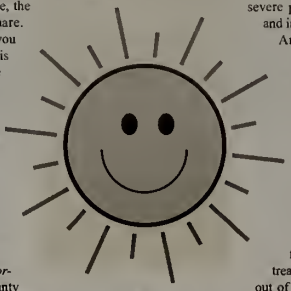
As the time approaches for spring and summer breaks, many college students are getting ready for that long planned trip abroad. Most will have a safe and enjoyable adventure. but for some, the trip will become a nightmare. The best way to ensure that you have a reasonably safe trip is to be well informed before you leave.

The U.S. State Department provides travel safety information to assist you in planning your trip abroad. The State Department issues *Consular Information Sheets*, *Trovel Wornings*, *Public Announcements*, and country or regional publications.

There is a *Consular Information Sheet* for every county in the world with information on passport and visa requirements, the risk of crime, the condition of medical care, areas of unrest, the location of the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate, and other items.

Trovel Wornings are issued when the State Department decides, based on all relevant information, to recommend that Americans avoid travel to all or part of a country.

Public Announcements are issued to disseminate information quickly about terrorist threats and other relatively short-term and/ or trans-national conditions posting significant risks or disruptions to Americans. Occurrences such as bomb threats to airlines, weapons shipments and violence by terrorists. coups or anniversary dates of terrorist events have resulted in such announcements.



On occasion, Americans encounter difficulties abroad because they were not familiar with local laws, customs, or conditions. More than 2,500 American citizens are arrested abroad every year — many of them for violating local laws regarding the use of alcohol in public and the behavior associated with it.

Many young people visit popular resort areas and overindulge in alcohol, assuming that because the atmosphere appears "more laid-back than in the States," such conduct is overlooked by local authorities. A number of students also assume that they are immune from prosecution in foreign lands because they are American citizens.

Truth is that Americans are subject to the laws of the country in which they are traveling. Those who violate foreign laws may face severe penalties, including fines and imprisonment. In the past, American college students have been arrested for being intoxicated in public areas and for drunk driving, as well as for various other violations.

Once you leave United States soil, U.S. laws and constitutional rights no longer apply. U.S. consular officers can visit jailed Americans to see that they are being fairly and humanely treated, but cannot get tbem out of jail or intervene in a foreign country's legal system on their behalf.

Remember: getting too relaxed while in another country can do more than ruin your vacation; it can land you in a foreign jail. To have a safe trip, become familiar with the basic laws and customs of the country you plan to visit before you travel. The State Department encourages you to check the Consular Affairs' home page on the Internet: http://travel.state.gov for the latest travel safety information.

For further information contact: Bureau of Consular Affairs, Office of Public Affairs, (202) 647-1488.

Students Save With ISE

Students who hold an International Student Exchange Identity Card (ISE CARD) and order Eurail Flexipasses from ISE Cards before April 30, 1998 will receive a $20 DISCOUNT on ANY EURAIL or EUROPASS.

The popular Eurailpasses offer a flexible and economical way to travel around continental Europe with unlimited access to over 100,000 scenic miles of track on tbe national railway systems of 17 European countries.

These include: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland.

Students heading overseas this spring and summer can now save $50 off the price of any airline ticket on any airline to Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, or Australia.

Students may order passes by calling 800-255-8000. All major credit cards are accepted and passes are sent via Federal Express at no additional charge. Individuals who do not have ISE Cards may obtain one at tbe Study Abroad offices of many universities, or they may order it directly form ISE Cards along with their Eurailpass or Europass. The cost of the ISE Card is $20. It is valid for one year and provides a bost of discounts for students traveling overseas as well as medical, medical evacuation and legal assistance benefits.

Passes and ISE CARDS may be ordered by calling (800) 255-8000.

Seminars, Conferences, Workshops . . . and the City at Night

by Weyne Berr end Anne-Marie Gravel
Editors

Rain

It was raining all the way to New York. It was raining when we arrived, raining when we checked into our hotel rooms at the Marriot Marquis on Broadway, and raining when we left the hotel in search of food.

From our hotel rooms on the thirty-sixth floor we could only see the tops of umbrellas floating over minuscule pedestrian traffic; in adjacent buildings we could see executives and assistants typing furiously at desktop computers.

We realized, after a moment, that they could see us too.

We realized, subsequently, that we were in one of the most densely populated cities in the world. The concentration of human individuals in such a small area was staggering.

We also realized, when we ventured into the streets and met the vacant, expectant stares of those in the service sector, that you must tip nearly every one with whom you interact.

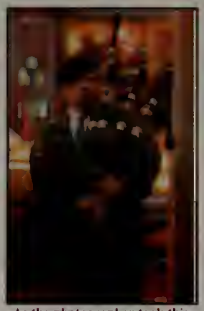
Unfortunately, Student Activities does not let clubs and organizations budget for gratuities.

It was raining, later, when we left; it rained, in fact, all but one of the four days and three nights we were there.

Sessions

During the day the rain was irrelevant: we nine students (Wayne Barr, Dain Binder, Brian Boczenowski, Anne-Marie Gravel, Tom Nostin, Jennifer O'Brien, Becky Senecal, and Jessica Steel) and our advisors (Professor Janet Bowdan and Media Adviser Kim Deeley) were in New York for the 20th Annual Collegiate Media Convention, sponsored by College Media Advisers and the Columbia Scholastic Press Association.

Our days were filled with sessions exploring topics like "Turning Stupid Assignments into Great Photos" and "Legal Problems with Satire and Humor," a session which helped inspire this week's April Fool edition of *The Westerner*.



As the photographer took this picture, the bagpipest pointed vigousously at the box at his feet. Cost of photo: $1.00

Ultimately, the information gathered at these sessions will help students of the yearbook, literary magazine, and newspaper staffs to handle the many issues of on-campus publishing.

Jane Robelot, co-anchor of CBS New's "This Morning," introduced herself to students before delivering the keynote address, "The News Business and the 21st Century."

Robelot spoke conversationally to students and advisers from all over the country about the "thin line" which separates shows like *Hard Copy* and the evening news.

"The line must get thicker," she said. "Pray that your generation is the one that holds the line."

Robelot deviated from the traditional lecture format to share anecdotes about her own experiences, and to offer advice culled from those experiences.

"While you have an opportunity in college, dabble in all news mediums," she said. "Do an internship. Some are paid internships and some are non-paid, and if things go really bad, what are they going to do — fire you?"

New York in the Afternoon

There is only so much to say about sessions, meetings and the never-ending pontification of some of the speakers we encountered. New York is crawling (almost literally) with the urban manifestations of life, of people, of culture. As restless students, we needed to escape, and so, after sessions and between session, we ventured in small clusters onto the streets.

We saw, in our exploration, the day-glow orange getup of street-cleaners, perhaps compulsory members of New York City's Workfare program — members who, according to recent WNEC lecturer Frances Fox Piven, are "branded" for their poverty, for their "dependence" on public assistance (see *The Westerner*, Vol. 43, Issue 9, page 2).

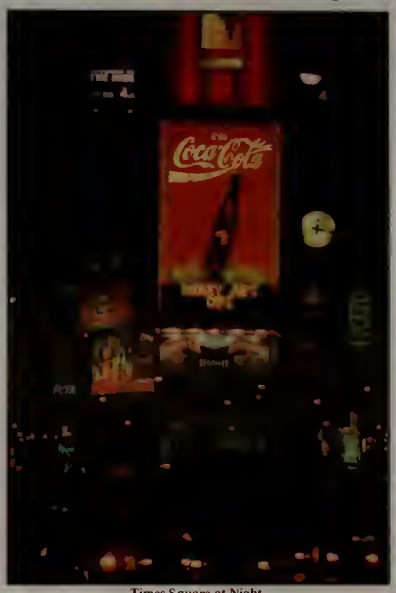
We soon learned the importance of small bills — dollar bills in particular — in the social discourse of concierges, bellhops, maids, waitresses, bartenders, homeless people, hot dog venders, street performers, and taxicab drivers. There is a general inability, or fierce reluctance, to break larger bills.

Hot dogs venders, incidentally, usually provide the most economical lunch (or breakfast, or dinner) for traveling college students. In just a couple of days the "financially challenged" students of the group learned which street corners bore friendly venders with exceptionally inexpensive dogs, which venders consider relish a condiments, and which venders are best able to break a twenty dollar bill.

One never knows, of course, how long it's been since they changed the water.

At the Museum of Modern Art hung Vincent van Gogh's famous "Starry Night." Through the layers of paint one could see the pale, threadbare canvas.

"Stars are the celestial means of communication [illegible]," van Gogh wrote to his brother. The wheels in the painting churned — passionately, furiously — and a quiet, reverent hush filled the room as spectators mutely stared



Times Square at Night

New York at Night

No college student in his or her right mind goes to bed before midnight, particularly if one is in Manhattan. And no trip to Manhattan would be complete without an attempted pickpocket; without being followed by ominous, dark automobiles in the neighborhoods just beyond Broadway; without somehow witnessing well-dressed businessmen accosting prostitutes, and without being accosted oneself.

But it is too simple to resort to descriptions of New York at night as a seedy underworld of moral corruption; such clichés don't necessarily ring true. A homeless man on one block called cheerfully to passersby for donations to the "cold, homeless, Negro Pizza Fund. It takes a lot of dough to make a good pizza!" Something about him beyond his self-deprecating comedy brought us back. We gave him our change.

Dain Binder, our photographer, took a picture.

"Now that must be worth something!" the man laughed.

It was.

Manhattan, of course, is replete with restaurants, shops, and all manners of attractions (carnal and otherwise) for those who can afford them. Some of us pooled enough money for a visit to The Lounge, a restaurant atop the Marriot which slowly rotates, giving its diners a gradual panoramic

See NEW YORK, page 18

Lindey's, a cafe/restaurant across the street from our hotel. Some students had to leave when they saw the prices on the menu.

Homeless man on the streets of Manhattan

Sauntering Through Paris: Excerpts From a Travelogue

by Sarah Miller
Contributing Writer

Over spring break, Professor Frances Abram and her students had wonderful time in Paris!

Here is just an overview of the week, culled from a travelogue I kept:

Day One

We explore the Latin Quarter (Quatier Latin), and we went to the

PHOTO/SARAH MILLER

A fashion show in Paris

Nortre Dame Cathedral. The architecture was just amazing!

We were all quite impressed with the interior of the church, which displayed beautiful paintings and statues. The stained glass windows were breathtaking.

We walked along the Seine River and wandered through the narrow streets, looking at all the tall buildings — hotels, apartments, shops — incredible!

The travel agency provided us with a bus tour of the city. We saw le Tour Eiffel, Champs-Elysees, (Place de la Concorde, Arc de Triomph), le Musee D'Orsay, Le Louvre, and Les Invalides where Napolean is buried.

We learned a great deal about French History on this tour, including [illegible] architecture, buildings before [illegible]

Napolean, and French culture: then and now.

Day Two

The Lourve! Sculptures — Venus de Milop, Winged Victory; paintings — Liberty Leading the People, La Jaconde (The Mona Lisa), The Coronation.

This museum is enormous, and all sorts of people in history have made additions to it. We were told that if we spend every day and night looking at each work of art for 30 seconds, it would take us three months to get through the entire museum.

After a fulfilling visit to the Lourve, we had our lunch at the Tuillerie Gardens — not in full bloom yet, but peaceful, and full of birds.

We spend the afternoon at Monmartre, Sacre Coeur (the building, built as a kind of memorial). What a view of Paris!

Day Three

A French fashion show! We went to the top of a sizeable separtment store to see the latest in Paris fashion. Tres chic!

After the fashion show, Professor Abrams took us into the Galleries Lafayette, a very elaborate department store. There is a beautiful domed ceiling that is just elegant!

We visited the Opera Building, but we could not go into the auditorium, because there was a rehearsal going on. We were, however, able to catch a glimpse of the ballet through the small windows.

The Musee D'Orsay gave us an afternoon of great art. My personal favorites are the Impressionist paintings, specifically the Monet paintings. We were able to see an exhibit on Monet and Manet — it was exceptional.

The Samaritaine is a large department store that gives a roof[illegible] of the city. We took lots [illegible] pictures here, especially of the le Tour Eiffel and Sacre Coeur.

PHOTO/SARAH MILLER

A View of the Eiffel Tower

Day Four

Centre Pompidou, a modern art museum, was closed for renovations. We took the morning to wander through shops and marketplaces.

My lunch consisted of brie cheese, a baguette, and au gratin potatoes from a marketplace not far from our hotel (we stayed on the left bank, in the Quartier Latin, near Notre Dame).

In the afternoon, we attended a children's marionette show in the Luxembourg Gardens. The children (all shouting at the puppets in French) outnumbered us. This was great fun, and obviously not designed for tourists.

We took a nice cruise along the Seine River in the evening. It was cold, yet we saw everything in fabulous lights — The Louvre, Notre Dame, and Le Tour Eiffel were just a few of the sights.

Day Five

Versailles — the home of three generations of Kings (Louis!).

The first King moved out of The Lourve — he did not want to be right in Paris, feeling it was too dangerous.

Louis XVI and his lovely Marie Antoinette were taken from here and beheaded, under Napolean's orders.

The Hall of Mirrors and the gardens are among the most attractive aspects of the palace.

We also stopped at Invalides to see where Napolean is buried.

La Sorbonne, a university well-known to those of us studying *French in Action*, was a great delight to us. We were able to get, even though it was exam time, because Professor Abrams was a student there. She spoke to the guard, and he let us wander through the courtyard.

The jazz club we attended late in the evening was full of swing dancers and happy musicians! The violinist was great — the music was just incredible. A cello, drums, a xylophone, and a piano added just the right amount of melody to the evening.

Day Six

The Metro gave us a nice smooth ride over to Champs-Elysees, where we saw Arch de Triomph, where the Unknown Soldier is buried. There is a ceremony every night at 6:30pm for this soldier.

We went to le Tour Eiffel — all the way up to the top! What a view!

We also learned of Gustav Eiffel's apartment, which was right on top. He would invited people to visit him there, such as Thomas Edison.

Le Cimitiere-Pere Lachaise is where Jim Morrison, Sarah Bernhardt, Yves Montande, and Oscar Wilde (just to name a few) are buried. It is a huge cemetery, and we had not finished wandering around when they rang the bell for us to leave.

We then went to Mussee Rodin and saw *The Thinker* (Le Penseur) and many other great sculptures.

Our last night here. We all got together for dinner at Le Coupe Chou, a nice french restaurant, where Louis XIII once lived.

Beef Bourginon, Beef (au Poivre), and Duck were just a few of the entrees enjoyed by members of the group. Sorbet for dessert. A four-hour meal!

It was very interesting, terrific trip, and we learned a lot. I highly recommend France for those of you who will take French or have taken French.

PHOTO/SARAH MILLER

A Street Near Hotel D'Albe

The Louvre (Pyramid)

Arts & Entertainment

April 3, 1998

~Movie Matching~

1. -Questions?
   ~Yeah, I've got a question. Does Barry Manilow know that you raid his wardrobe?
   -I'll give you the answer to that question, Mr. Bender, next Saturday. Don't mess with the bull young man, or you'll get the horns.

2. Ordinarily when you make glue, first you need to thermoset your resin and then after it cools you mix in epoxside. Which is just a fancy shmancy name for and simple oxygenated adhesive, right. Then I thought maybe, just maybe you could raise the viscosity by adding a complex glucose derivative during the emulsification process. And it turns out, I was right.

3. ~Chewing gum helps me think.
   -Sweetie, your wasting your gum.

4. Big big...big bear. Big bear. Big bear chase me. Big bear.

5. What happens when Jerry gets mad?

6. ~Dong? Dong? Where is my AUTOMOBILE?
   -Auto-mo-bile.

7. As you wish.

8. So how does a hot chick like you end up working for the Ministry of Defense?

9. ~Damn it Janet.
   -Be glad Brad.

10. Victims — aren't we all.

11. Sparky Va va va voom.

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a. **The Princess Bride**
b. **The Great Outdoors**
[illegible] **The Birdcage**
[illegible] **Sixteen Candles**
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] **Breakfast Club**
[illegible] **and Michele's High School Reunion**

1-j, 2-k, 3-c, 4-b, 5-h, 6-d, 7-a, 8-f, 9-e, 10-i, 11-g

Close Encounters of the "Real" Kind

"Real World" Cast Members Come to Western New England College

by Jassica Brasil

Jason Cornwell

In recent years, MTV's television docu/drama, the Real World, has become a pop culture phenomenon among young adults ages 18-25. The Real World itself is a simple concept: put seven strangers into a house, tape their lives for six months, and then compile 22 episodes from the footage. The show allows its viewers to "find out what happens when people stop being polite and start getting real."

Due to the show's growing popularity, the Official Real World Reunion Tour was created three years ago by the World Wide Talent Group. This lecture series has focused on conflict resolution, diversity, relationships, and other pertinent issues that face college students today.

The cast members also offer the audience an uncensored look behind the scenes of the show.

The Real World Reunion Tour will come toWestern New England College campus on Wednesday, April 8, at 7:00pm, in Sleith 100. Three cast members from the latest installment of the Real World, filmed in Boston, will be the program's featured speakers.

The cast members scheduled to appear are Genesis, Jason, and Kameelah.

Genesis has been described as an outgoing blond lesbian, originally from Mississippi. She applied to be on the Real World in order to leave her hometown.

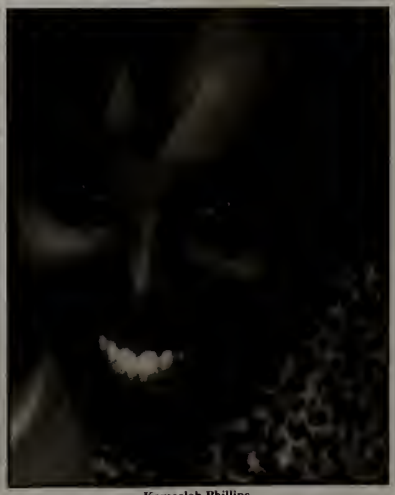
She also has stated that being on the show and appearing at colleges across the country has really given her the opportunity to mature, put her life into perspective, and give it direction.

Genesis said that "many audience members have approached me after the program and told me that they are gay; they often say they have never come out to anyone before."

Kameelah is an African-American college student who currently attends Stanford University. She usually discusses women's issues and, like Genesis, AIDS education.

Kameelah said that she applied to be on the Real World to experience something new. She said she felt that being on the show and meeting people on the tour have definitely given her the opportunity to become more comfortable with herself on a greater scale.

"I realize that it isn't just me dealing with the six people in the firehouse at the time — it is me dealing with the viewers nationwide, in one way or another," she said.



Kameelah Phillips

One of Kameelah's most memorable experiences on the tour is of "a young girl came up to me after a presentation and said that she really looked up to me. She said that by watching me on the show, I really helped her deal with issues in her own life."

Jason has been described as a blond, spoken-word poet with a nose ring; he is originally from Arkansas. On the tour he usually he discusses college issues like conflict resolution, and often he reads original poetry and sells his zine, *Nora's Purge*.

Nora's Purge consists of journal entries written by Jason before his appearance on the Real World.

In the near future he plans to release a second zine featuring journal entries which chronicle his life on the Real World.

The Real World at WNEC is an activity sponsored by the Campus Activities Board (CAB). It will be held on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00pm in Sleith 100. Tickets will be on sale for $3 in the Campus Center Mall Area on April 1-3, 6, 7 from 11am-4pm.

"Dawn of the Dead" Sparks New Life

by Brian McIntyra

"Dawn of the Dead" is a blast from the past. The film released in 1978 was written and directed by horror genius George A. Romero.

This movie is the basis for newer gore classics from 1978 to present.

If horror is entertaining to you

PHOTO: KATHERINE KOLBERT

George Romero

and somehow you overlooked this flick, give it a try.

Four courageous survivors fend off hundreds of man eating zombies in a shopping mall. Time is running out and they must decide whether to stay and defend their territory, or leave and battle the millions of deformed creatures that remain.

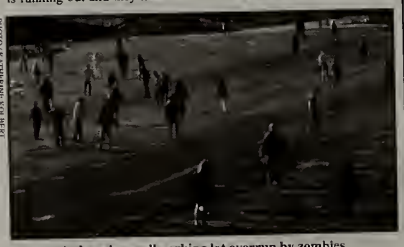


PHOTO: KATHERINE KOLBERT

A shopping mall parking lot overrun by zombies.

The cast consists of Gaylen Ross, Ken Foree, David Emge, Scott H. Reininger, and a host of hundreds of bloodthirsty zombies. From the escape in Philadelphia, to the overtaking of the mall in Pennsylvania, scene after scene of horrific action takes place. To add a special twist to the ordeal, a ravenous motorcycle gang invades the shopping center. The direct result is man versus man while hundreds of zombies linger about searching for a feast.

Tom Savini, "the godfather of gore", provides the movies bloodcurdling effects.

Savini previously worked with the film's director, George Romero, in the 1977 vampire release "Martin". His own personal touches include decapitations and stunts performed by himself. His wizardry of malicious effects adds touches that could be provided by no one else.

The re-release which consists of more footage and digital remastering, has a total running time of 137 minutes. You will be on the edge of your seat eager to see what is next.

Roger Ebert of the Chicago Sun Times considers this movie "One Of The Best Horror Films Ever Made". Since modern day horror movies cease to exist, true horror fans must take refuge in the classics. If true horror is your love then give "Dawn of the Dead" a shot.

The movie relies on a more serious plot which differs from modern zombie movies such as "Return of the Living Dead" which tend to be humorous in demeanor. Besides plot, the main concentration is the array of carnage depicted in various forms of death. Both the zombies and the humans are often met by gruesome deaths which will be imbedded in your memory.

With modern day movies such "Scream" and "I Know What You Did Last Summer", the world has lost sight of true horror. These are great movies but "Dawn of the Dead" shows true horror aspects while modern day scary movies refuse to be horror filled simply because it doesn't sell.

Romero displays gore, a strong plot, and originality all in one shot. Modern day scare flicks tend to lack these highly needed qualities.

If blood, guts, and gore are your entertaining interest, then take a plunge into George Romero's world of sadistic madness.

You will experience the terror and mayhem that only this movie can provide.

Limb after limb will be torn off victims as you watch in squeamish delight. Turn your room into a nightmare with Romero's classic.

Stagewest Takes "Road to Mecca"

New Play Explores Trust, Religion, Age and Art

by Nicole Pizzuti and Natalie Pisarcik
Staff Writers

"Do you know what the most powerful word is? *Trust.*"

So says Elsa Barlow (Kate Myre), a young schoolteacher who travels 800 miles to visit aging artist Miss Helen (Tanny McDonald) in "The Road to Mecca," Stagewest's sixth presentation of the season.

Athol Fugard's introspective play is about Elsa Barlow's reasons for her journey to the Karoo, a dry and dusty area of South Africa where Miss Helen lives.

An elderly woman, Miss Helen has more "free spirit" than Elsa has ever even dreamed of having herself — and she idolizes that. Miss Helen's neighbors, however, are not so progressive in matters of personal rights, free will, and free-spiritedness. The residents are severely influenced by politics and the church, which ultimately hurts Miss Helen and her true beliefs.

The local minister, Marius Byleveld(played humorously by George Hosmer), tries to manipulate Miss Helen to move to an old age home — a home that just so happens to be run by his church. The thought of losing her artisite home — adorned with stone statues staring out from her yard — as well as her creative ability terrifies Miss Helen, and she is not assuaged by the cheery prospect of "Sunshine Home for Our Elderly."

Marius, however, tries to convince her that she is not safe being alone because her hands are afflicted with arthritis and her eyesight is failing. Elsa, who meanwhile is dealing with her own problems of love and betrayal, must now support Miss Helen and show her that her art is truly amazing and an important part or her life. Elsa knows that Miss Helen still has a life ahead of her and should not be "drooling away the rest of her life" in an old age home.

Schoolteacher Elsa Barlow (Kate Myre, right), comforts aging artist Miss Helen (Tanny McDonald, left)

The story revolves around Miss Helen's home and the symbolic significance of her mirrored, sparkling, candle-laden walls. What comes of it is Miss Helen's and Elsa's trust and love for each other.

The set itself, designed by Richard Chambers and lit by Kendall Smith, features Miss Helen's house — a miraculous little wonder of "light and color." Her home is an intriguing design that grasps the audience with all of its sparkles and glitter. It is like a fantastic preschool room or a child's dreamland.

McDonald's Miss Helen opens the play with an annoying scene of her frantically shuffling around cleaning her home for what seemed to be 15 minutes. Her character, however, is endearing as a sweet, creative, although confused and different woman. Miss Helen and Marius together bring on the change in what occurs in Elsa.

Elsa is beautifully and powerfully portrayed by Kate Myre. Dealing with the frantic little Miss Helen along with her own problematic relationship, she delivers a convincing as well as emotional performance. Her best and most passionate scenes are those in which she raises her voice to say exactly what needed to be said. The audience knows she wanted to help the submissive Miss Helen from being pushed around and Elsa had a great knack at doing so. Myre really took home her role when giving a monologue (including profanity) about trust.

And that's what "The Road to Mecca" is about, ultimately: trust. Fugard's screenplay poignantly echoes much-asked questions: who do you trust, who do you love, and who do you believe? In the end trust was tested, reality found, and hope recovered. The plot unravels as secrets and truths come out between all three characters.

Elsa's trip, ultimately, is worth her 800 mile journey; it is also well worth a 5-mile drive downtown to Stagewest to see "The Road to Mecca."

"The Road to Mecca" runs through Sunday, April 20. Curtain is at 7:30pm on Tues., Wed., Thur., and Sun. evenings, and at 8:00pm on Fri. and Sat. evenings. Tickets are available at the box office or by phone at (413) 781-2340.

Marius Byleveld (George Hosmer, center) with Helen and Elsa

Arts & Entertainment News Briefs

The winner of the drawing for those who retumed their CORE SURVEYS was Bethany Egan! She received a $50 gift certificate to the Holyoke Mall.

Lore Detenber, Coordinator of WNEC's ALCOHOL AND DRUG EDUCATION SERVICES wants to THANK those who helped with the CORE Survey. Thanks to Westerner Staff, RA's, and work study helpers, we were able to inform students of the need for surveys to be completed and sent back. Also, thank you to the students who completed the surveys. We had a high rate of return. You'll be hearing the results in April!

Skating Superstars Michelle Kwan, Tara Lipinski, Elvis Stojko and Todd Elderedge Headline Camphell's Soups Champions On Ice

Springfield, Ma, March 16, 1998 - The most exciting stars of figure skating are coming to the Springfield Civic Center for one performance only on Thursday, April 16th.

Tickets are on sale now at the Springfield Civic Center Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Tickets are priced at $55. To charge by phone, call (413) 787-6600 or (800) 639-8602.

Performing skaters also include Nancy Kerrigan, Oksana Baiul, Victor Petrenko and many others including Olympic gold medalists and champions.

South Hadley... Theater at Mount Holyoke College
Three Chekhov One-Acts

The Bear: A Reluctant Tragic Hero; The Dangers af Tobacco about money, marriage and other buman foibles.

Performances are: Thursday - Sunday, April 16, 17, 18, 19 at 8:00 p.m. and Saturday April 18 at 2:00 p.m. Ticket prices are $4 general admission and $2 for students and senior citizens. All seats are $1 for the Thursday evening performance. For reservations, call (413) 538-2406 beginning Monday, April 13.

The Augusta Savage Gallery at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, announces a film screening of The Women Outside: Korean Women and the U.S. Military on Mon, April 13 at 7pm.

Documenting the lives of women who work in the brothels, bars and nightclubs surrounding the U.S. military bases in South Korea, The Women Outside follows the provocative and emotional journey of military prostitutes and club women from the outskirts of Seoul to the inner cities of America.

This film screening is free and open to the public.

The Reaching goals mentorship Program is sponsored and implemented by the Women's Partnership within the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with Career and Human Resources. The purpose of the program is for junior and senior women to have access to a formal, business oriented relationsbip with a professional woman.

We will have five or six scheduled meetings next semester. During these meetings, a speaker from the business community presents a topic of interest to the students, which pertains to their entrance into the professional world of work.

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Desiree in C&HR @ 782-1217. The program is limited, so please sign up ASAP.

Celebrate National Parks Week at the Springfield Armory

Come to the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Saturday, April 18. Museum activities will focus on the Centennial of the Spanish-American War. Featured are an opening of the one year exhibition - Guest speaker, Howard Zinn on "The Lessons of the Spanish-American War" and a first day Postal Cancellation. Discover the important role that the Springfield Armory had in the manufacturing of firearms during that War and the historical context of the times.

Admission is free. Exhiblt 10am - 4:30pm.

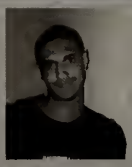
Augusta Savage Gallery announces a solo guitar concert by Puerto Rican-born José Gonzalez on Thurs, April 9 at 7pm.

Composer and virtuoso guitarist, José Gonzalez is one of the foremost exponents of the Puerto Rican/Caribbean music in the United States today. Acclaimed for his original compositions featuring "the Cuatro," (Puerto Rico's national instrument), his four self-produced recordings have become bestsellers.

This performance is free and open to the public.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Asked:

The Law School Has A Student Run and Organized Gay, Lesbian, and Bi-Sexual Alliance. At the Undergraduate Level We Do Not Have A Formally Established Organization. Do You Think That WNEC is Ready For Their Own Organization At the Undergraduate Level? Do You Think Such An Organization Should Be Established For The Fall Semester?



Andy Miles, Freshman
"Frankly, I would not care. I don't even think about homosexuality, its none of my business."

Helder Cerqueirea, Senior
"If there is enough intrest in the student body, tben there should be an organization."

Brian Stromwall, Senior
"Every other intrest group gets their own club, so they deserve their own also."

Yubin Yeung, Sophomore
"It is necessary since everybody has there own club. Nowadays there are gay marriages; gay people should not have to hide and should be accepted."

Christina Shaw, Senior
"I think that we should have something available. I have a friend who was on campus that is gay and he was afraid to come out here. This way he could have had people to relate too."

Cynthia Liang, Junior
"I think it is necessary. Why not? It is just to get people together and make this campus more unified. The Law School has one, that's wierd. If they have one...we must have one!"

John Taylor (Left), Junior
"If people want to put one together and the interest is there, they should; just like any other club. I personally would not oppose it, but other people might, like religious advocates."

Stephanie McGill (Right), Junior
"Sure, but it would not be accepted on this campus by most students. It may not be looked upon as a positive thiog."

Please Note the Following:

We did speak to several people who did not have an opinion on the issue either way — unfortunately they did not want their comment or picture placed in *The Westerner*. We did not find anyone who was opposed to the addition of a GLBA on the undergraduate level. However, after speaking informally with Maureen Keizer, Director of Student Activities, we were informed that students do gather informally on campus in support of each other, hut do not feel supported hy the campus community as a whole. There have heen several Instances In which students have heen passing through the Campus Center and have overheard derogatory remarks regarding homosexuals and homosexuality.

As stated earlier, the Law School does have a GBLA set up at the graduate level. Fortunately they have made it available to undergrads also. If you would like more information on this topic please don't hesitate to contact the Student Activities Office, 782-1203.

Sports

April 3, 1998

Brian Brunk: A True Winner At WNEC

by Brian McIntyre

PHOTO : ANNE-MARIE GRAVEL

Brian Brunk, a senior at Western New England College, has been a successful wrestler for some time now. He is from Maine and this season he has a record of 28 and 2.

Also, he has just made his second appearance at the New England's, and it was a success.

Over spring break Brunk also attended the Nationals in Iowa. This was his ultimate goal in his last season of college level wrestling.

This captain of the wrestling team has a career record of 112 and 41.

Success on the mat is not is only strong point. This year Brunk, a history major, earned the title of an Academic All American. After graduation Brian plans to teach history and coach wrestling.

Brunk has strong ties with his teammates. He feels the team is a close bunch of friends, which makes wrestling especially enjoyable. Without such unity, success would be less likely. Strong ties cause this team to support one another, which automatically initiates success.

After he leaves WNEC, he hopes that the team will continue to be close and successful. WNEC has a winning tradition in wrestling, and Brunk wants it to continue.

Whether it be on the mat or in the classroom, Brian displays the true meaning of leadership. He deserves the best of luck in all that he does after graduation.

Do you have a student you would like to profile in *The Westerner?* If so, please contact the staff @ 782-1580 or visit the Student Publications Office, CC #163.

Coach Bishop Resigns

Basketball Team Looking to Rebound Next Season

by Ryan O'Connor
Staff Writer

It has already been a month since the men's basketball team was eliminated from the CAC Tournament in Springfield, Mass. The team lost to the powerhouse school of Springfield College in the first round of action.

Although the overall season was a disappointment, the team has already experienced a new change. Three weeks ago, Brett Bishop resigned as head coach of the men's basketball team.

Bishop resigned after five seasons at the helm. His overall record during his tenure was 27-98.

Bishop decided it would be best to step down as head coach and focus on his family first.

Bishop is also a full-time physical education teacher at the Chestnut Middle School in Springfield. He plans to spend more time with his wife and their three children at their home in Enfield, CT.

The news was a bit of a shock to the players, even though they knew that there were going to be drastic changes on the team.

Bishop resigned with style and with class, as he told the team in a meeting a month ago.

Despite Bishop's dismal record, he gave 100 percent on the sidelines and on the court during practice. Sophomore Tom Keane expressed his feelings by saying, " Coach Bishop is a great guy and I enjoyed playing for him the past two seasons."

Many players on the team agreed, but didn't care for Bishop's style of coaching.

The resigning of the coach is just one transition of the team. The team is currently looking for a new head coach. They may not know until summer who will take over the throne.

There have been rumors floating around campus that Coach Bill Bates, the present assistant coach, could replace Bishop before next season starts. Several players, especially the younger ones, are excited about the upcoming season and a new head coach with a new philosophy of coaching.

The team is looking for a coach who can come in and establish a solid basketball team.

Next season, then, will be time of reconstruction for the team. Although the players are getting used to playing with one another on the court, rebuilding will take another year or two.

Until the season begins next year, the players are staying in shape by conditioning and playing pick-up games everyday in the HLC. Look for the Golden Bears to have a new look on the court next year, and hopefully get this basketball program turned around.

Storm Watch:

BLIZZARD Leaving Springfield

by David Weinberg

The New England Blizzard of the American Basketball League (ABL) are leaving Springfield, MA and will play its entire 1998-99 season at their *other* home — in Connecticut at the Hartford Civic Center.

The Blizzard were unique in that they were the only two-city, two-state team in professional sports. However, according to General Manager Pam Batalis ,the team will no longer hold this status.

The Blizzard have strongly influenced the popularity of women's basketball by drawing 17 of the 25 biggest crowds in the ABL's two seasons. However, "of the 17 crowds (including one playoff game) at the Hartford Civic Center this past season, only six would have fit into the Springfield Civic Center." Batalis told the media.

Besides the Civic Center in Springfield being too small, money (as always) motivated the Blizzards departure in several ways.

First, in Springfield the average net profit per game was 38 percent less than what the lowest Hartford game gets.

Second, the average net profit in Hartford is 60 percent higher than the average net profit in Springfield.

Third, in Hartford, the average net profit is 34 percent higher than a sellout in Springfield.

It is simply pathetic that Springfield, which is a center for basketball pride and home of the Basketball Hall of Fame, is losing this professional team to Hartford.

Springfield will need to step up from its timidness to be bigger and better than its rivals if it wants to maintain its sports revenue. Otherwise, it may become appropriate to ask whether Hartford will steal the Basketball Hall of Fame from Springfield also?

Back-To-Back Intramural Basketball Champs

by Ryen O'Connor

Basketball is most popular during this month — for one reason, the NCAA Division 1 Tournament is happening.

Well, Western New England College has had its own Basketball "March Madness." For the past month and a half, students have been battling it out on the court in the intramural basketball league.

Although the crowds and fan support were not high, the talent of play was. The league, which has been run by Coach Downes, has been proven a huge success.

There are two leagues: the NBA, which is supposedly the highest level of talent, and the CBA, which seems to have just as much talented players.

Although the NBA had a great tournament, the CBA league was a little more exciting since it had the Championship team from last year winning the title again this year.

It was another sweet championship for the baseball team. Although the team consists of some non-WNEC baseball players, the team is captained by sophomore baseball player Ryan Melle.

The bulk of the players do come from the College's baseball team; the other players on the team are players from other WNEC sports teams.

Melle commented that, "It was the relentless tenacious defense that gave us yet another championship."

The league consisted of about eleven teams and each team played an eight-game regular schedule. Some of the teams had a full roster, while others played with less then five starters, which made it interesting.

The regular season ended right before spring break, and the playoffs started when students returned. The playoffs were exciting as expected — the final-four teams consisted of the Silver Bullets, NWO, the Baseball team, and the Law School. The Silver Bullets lost by 6 to the Law School in a great game.

The Baseball team had no problems beating NWO by a margin of ten.

Sophomore Paul Heering and his team were again headed to the finals against the underdog Law School.

The Law School was hurting even before the game had begun, due to the absence of their best overall player, who stands 6'3. Also, their second-best player injured his ankle in the first five minutes of the game.

The Baseball team was led by sophomores Todd Dawson, Pete Driscoll, and senior "Sweet" Lou Russell. The second championship title for the baseball team looked to be as easy as taking candy from a little girl. In the second half the Law School made a run for their money, closing the lead down to only two points.

But in the end, it was the younger and quicker players of the baseball team who captured their second championship title in the HLC.

Golden Bears "Bit" By Falcons

by David Weinberg

In women's softball, Fitchburg State scored three unearned runs highlighted by three Western New England College errors in the third inning. The three miscues in that inning (six in total) enabled the Falcons to topple the Golden Bears 4-2.

Wendy Keegan pitched impressively for the Fitchburg State victory, allowing only one earned run while striking out six batters. Golden Bears pitcher Rebecca Jones also pitched in an impressive outing, striking out three Falcons batters without yielding a base-on-balls. Megan Skidmore contributed two hits and Amy Velez had an RBI double in the Golden Bears valiant effort to shoot down the Falcons.

Winning Pitcher: **Wendy Keegan (1-1)** Losing Pitcher: **Rebecca Jones (2-4)**

Boxscore:		Runs	Hits	Errors
Fitchburg State	003 100 0	4	5	1
WNEC	110 000 0	2	6	6

Celebrate Spring!! Get Outdoors!!

Upcoming Wellness and Recreation Activities:

April 4:	Bike Trip to the Northhampton Rail Trail
April 6:	'On Your Own Time'
April 8-15:	Kayaking Instruction
April 18:	Hiking Trip
	Kayaking Trip
April 22:	Earth Day Recycle-a-Shoe Program
May 1:	Spring Aerobic Schedule Ends

Spring is in the air and we'll soon try to spend as much time outdoors as possible. Why wait for the summer to plan some outdoor recreation activities? Before the end of the semester the Department of Wellness and Recreation will offer activities that are FREE, or close to it. Whether you are new to the activity, or an experienced outdoor person, register now for any one of the activities listed here.

A bike trip to the Northhampton Rail Trail.

Are you a biker looking for a new place to ride? The Northhampton Rail Trail is the place. Transportation to and from campus will be provided. The trip will take place on Saturday April 4th and is FREE to everyone. The time will be announced.

Kayaking

This program incorporates Kayaking 101 and a river trip all in one. The 8-hour instruction course will be on April 8th and 15th and will cover equipment, basic strokes, and maneuvers in the AHLC pool. The full day off-site clinic on Saturday, April 18th introduces the participant to basic whitewater kayaking maneuvers and river features. Emphasis is placed on teaching individuals how to safely enjoy this incredible sport of whitewater kayaking. Instruction is provided by Springfield College's Wilderness Adventures program. Call now at 782-1524 to register for this great outdoor program.

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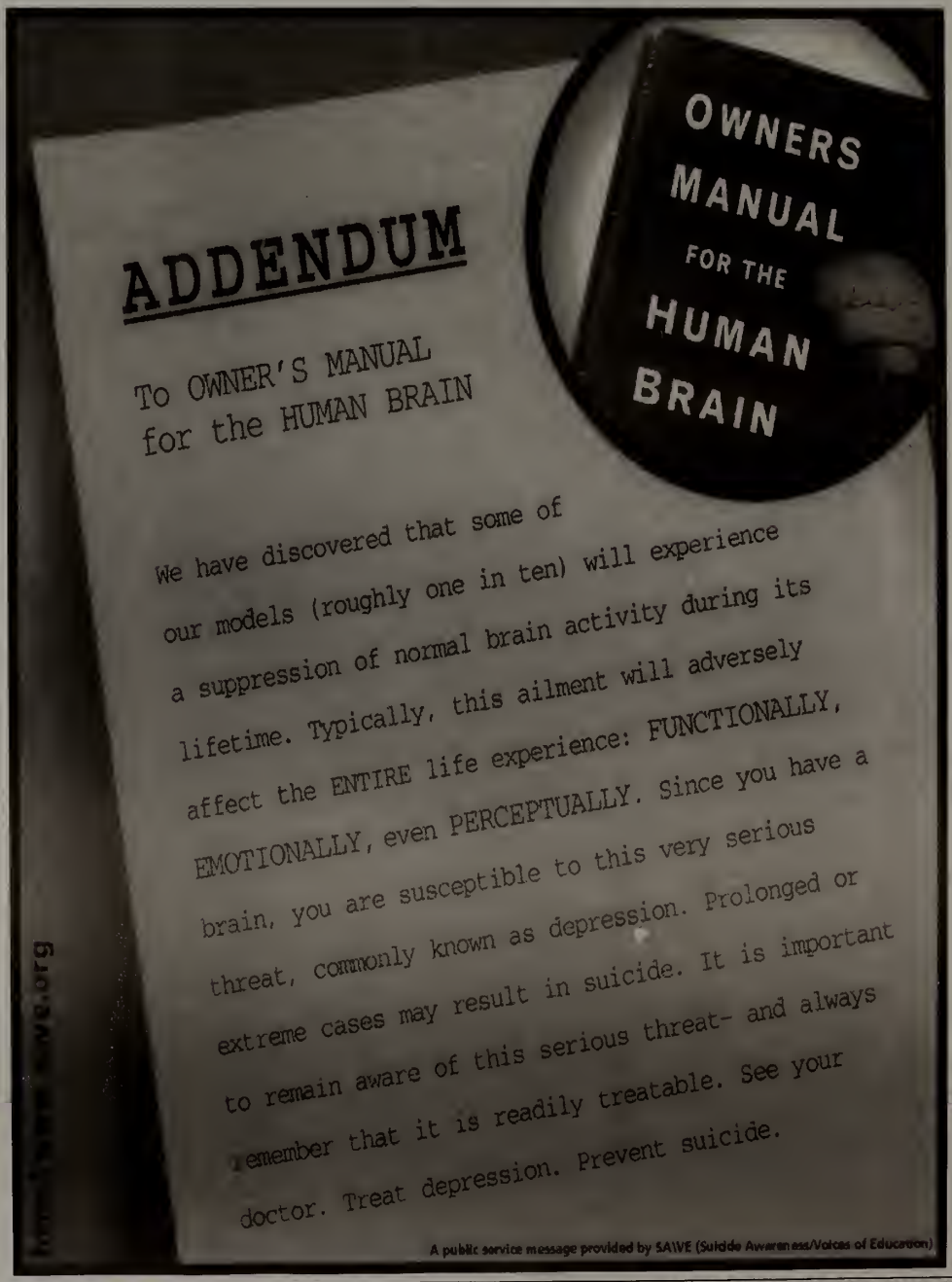
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EMOTIONALLY, even PERCEPTUALLY. Since you have a
brain, you are susceptible to this very serious
threat, commonly known as depression. Prolonged or
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to remain aware of this serious threat- and always
remember that it is readily treatable. See your
doctor. Treat depression. Prevent suicide.
A public service message provided by SAIVE (Suicide Awareness/Voices of Education)

Time Warp

Watch For These Spring Week Events

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4/13	4/14	4/15	4/16	4/17
50's Show 8:00PM *Dining Room A*	**CAB Fair** 11AM - 2PM *Gazebo Area* **60's Rock — When the Music Mattered** 8PM *Dining Room A*	**Dave Binder** **70's Show** 8PM *Dining Room A*	**Orange Crush — 80's Cover Band** 8PM *Dining Room A*	**90's Music** 9PM *Dining Room A*

Sponsored by CAB's Spring Week Committee

Attention Seniors

Saturday: May 9, 1998 —— Saturday: May 16, 1998

- Bronze Package (Basic) : $100
- Silver Package (Foxwoods) : $120
- Gold Package (Boston) : $160
- Platinum Package (Everything) : $170

Senior Formal Information ~

Date: Saturday, April 25, 1998
Time: 6:30 PM (cocktail goes until 7:30PM, then dinnner)
Place: Chez Joseph
Cost: $35 per person

Senior Week: There will be a MANDATORY check-in (4:00PM) and MEETING (4:30PM) on Saturday, May 9th, near the Gateway Pool.

DATING, from page 8

Since then there have been many interracial couples and children in the media: Keanu Reeves is Hawaiian/Chinese; Mariah Carey is Black/White; TAFKAP (The Artist Formerly Known As Prince) is Italian/Black; Brad Pitt dated Robin Givens (Mike "Mikey'll bite it" Tyson); Madonna dated Dennis Rodman (why did I go there?), and so on.

My point is that this is not an issue that will go away anytime soon. As much as we want to ignore it, everyone has to deal with this issue on some level. For all of you out there who either have never really thought about it or can truly say you love with your heart and not your head, I am proud of you.

For those of you who still aren't convinced, I suggest you to go home and ask your parents what your genealogy is.

Because of slavery, most families who are fourth, fifth, and later generations here in America have other nationalities and races within them. Some slave owners allowed their slaves to take on their surnames, hence many Blacks being associated with the names Johnson, Smith, and Jackson (English names).

Even in Europe there were intermixed children: Let's see, Blacks originated in Africa. Africa is a hop, skip, and a jump from Europe. Wasn't a famous African documented to have married a European? Cleopatra and Julius Caesar ring a bell. I don't think the real Cleopatra looked anything like Elizabeth Taylor, either.

Before you take your parents' guidance on blind faith, do the research yourself. I think you would benefit from what you could find.

David O'Quinn

NEW YORK, from page 10

of the city.

Those of us old enough to drink were unable to, or unable, at least, to drink very much: a mudslide at The Lounge approaches ten dollars, not including gratuity. A beer is a mere six dollars, a rum and coke (with a lot of ice) is nearly seven dollars.

Some who were inclined to go dancing lost their enthusiasm when they discovered that the minimum cover charge at a given club is nearly twenty dollars

Unfortunately, there are no hot dog venders out at night.

Most amazing, perhaps, are the lights in Times Square, the mere fact of their existence. Every display is an advertisement, a magnificent promise made with ambiguous referents.

Rain, Sleet, Ice

In New York we were vouchsafed only one day of warm, clear weather; otherwise it rained, and as we drove back to Springfield it began to sleet.

Apparently this had been happening in Massachusetts all along — we passed half a dozen cars lodged in embankments and trees off the Interstate.

Perhaps it was sleeting in New York, and beneath a flock of so many umbrellas we simply didn't realize it.

There was too much traffic — human and locomotive — for accumulation.

Anne-Marie Gravel (right) networks with Jane Robelot at the 20th Annual College Media Convention in New York City

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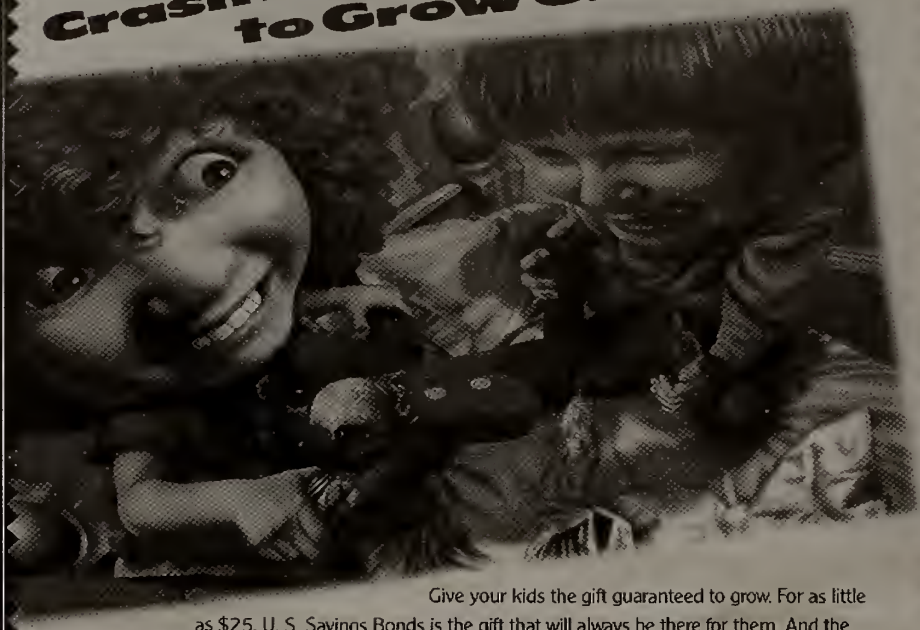

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Announcements

4/3 — 4/5, Hampden Hall Weekend.

4/3, Friday's -- "What Diversity Means to Me. Sponsored by CAB.

4/4, Community Service Outreach Day.

4/4, Bike Trip -- Rail Trail. Sponsored by Wellness & Recreation.

4/4, Midnight Bar-B-Que.

4/4, Choose Not to Use. Dining Room A. 5 Bands. 7:00. Sponsored by CAB/ Peer Educators.

4/5, Gateway Block Party. Sponsored by the Gateway Hall Council.

4/6, "Own My Own." Sponsored by Wellenss.

4/6 — 4/10, Priority Registration for Fall Semester.

4/6 — 4/9, Campus Week of Dialogue.

4/7 — 4/9, Dazed & Confused Merchandise Sale.

4/7, Contest Judging of "What Diversity Means to Me."

Announcements

4/7, Movies w/ Elia Pizarro.

4/8, Kayaking. AHLC Pool.

4/15, Laser Tag w/ Christina Shaw.

4/8, Application deadline for Ediotr position of *The Review of Art & Literature*. See Student Activities.

4/8, Application deadline for Editor position of The Cupola (yearbook). See Student Activities.

4/10, Friday's. Sponsored by the Sophomore Class.

4/13 — 4/17, Priority Registration for FAll Semester.

4/13 — 4/17, Spring Week: "Time Warp."

4/13, 50's Show. 8:00PM. Dining Room A.

4/14, CAB Fair. 11:00AM - 2:00PM. GAzebo Area.

4/14, "60's Rock — When the Music Mattered." An exciting trip through the 60's with BArry Drake, one of Rock Music's foremost historians. 8:00PM. Dining Room A.

Announcements

4/ 14, Stress Ball Sale & Literature.

4/15, Dave Binder — 70's Show. 8:00PM. Dining Room A.

4/15, Kayaking - AHLC Pool.

4/16, Omge Crush — 80's cover band. 8:00PM. Dining Room A.

4/17, Friday's. CAB.

4/17, 90's Music. 9:00PM. Dining Room A.

4/17, OGL Application deadline decisions.

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Ball-Python, 3 1/2 Feet, well tamed. Comes with: heating pad, heat lamp, watering rock, tank. $90 for everything, or best offer. Call: 782-7907. Ask for Amy Giroux.

X-Country Skiis

Track Spirit nowax, Poles 140 cm, Boots (Italian), Women's 10 - 11. $60 or best offer. Call Anne 782-2681.

For Sale

Calculator

TI86 - Must Sell

Brand new TI-86 for sale, includes book and TIGraphic Cable connection. $90.00 or best offer. Call 796-4214, ask for Keith.

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? ? ? ? ? ? ?

Black and White Dark Room is now open to all students. Hours are as follows: T 1 -2, W 3 -5, TH 12:30 - 2, F 10 - 2/ 3 - 4. Appointments must be made by signing up on the dorr in the Arts & Crafts Room (Campus Center.) Contact Dain Binder for appointment: put note on door, in box #1345, or box in the A&C Room. Please note: can not develop film, can only print from negatives.

Positions Available

Editor in Chief

The Review of Art & Literature

Editor in Chief

The Cupola **(yearbook)**

Applications are available in the Student Activities Office, 2nd Floor of the Campus Center.

Application deadline has been extended: Wednesday, April 8th @ 4:30PM.

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THE WESTERNER

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CAMPUS & LOCAL NEWS
Coach William Downes talks about Coach Eric Geldart's career and resignation.
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ASK MARILYN
p. 5

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Who takes care of the campus grounds, anyway?
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FACULTY PROFILES
A closer look at some of the professors and administrators students encounter every day.
p. 8

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT
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SPORTS

WNEC Olympics
p. 14

CLASSIFIEDS
p. 16

Brissette Addresses Athletes' Anxiety

Students Wonder about Geldart's Resignation, New Advisory Council

by Natalie Pisarcik
Staff Writer

The future of the athletic department seems uncertain, and many students are concerned. Earlier this month a meeting was held to discuss what appears to be the college's athletic dilemma.

Many students who attended the April 3 meeting at the Alumni Healthful Living Center were curious about the recent resignation of athletic director and coach Eric Geldart.

The resignation has been shrouded with rumors of misconduct and speculation, but no one is certain why Geldart has left.

The students who gathered on the bleachers at 5:30 that Friday were also concerned about rumors of further firings of other coaches, the removal of some sports teams, and the firing of other athletic personal.

Dr. Judith Brissette, Vice President of Administration and Planning, began by letting the student athletes know that the search for a new athletic director has begun and that there will be open forums for the candidates to which all are encouraged to attend.

Photo/ Wayne Barr

Ever since the construction of the Alumni Healthful Living Center, there has been much talk of developing an athletic program to match it. See related story (Geldhart) on page 3.

According to Brissette, some of the sudden changes in the college's athletic program are the result of a review of WNEC's college athletic program. The review was put together by the business school and the sports management program and was submitted to Dr. Anthony Caprio.

Caprio asked that money be put into the athletic budget for an assistant athletic director, and that an athletic advisory council be established at the college. This council would be comprised of student athletes, professors, administrators, and coaches.

See SPORTS, page 15

Students Throw Pies to Raise Money

by Colleen Cunnally

Poof!

On a sunny spring day, students lined up outside the gazebo to hurl cream pies at the willing "victims."

It was Thursday, April 9, when the Criminal Justice Association held its annual spring fund-raiser, "Pie In The Eye." This was the third year this event has been run, but the first time it has been held outside at the gazebo.

Good thing, considering the mess that was made.

There were 15 students and faculty members who volunteered to be the victims.

Raffle tickets were sold at 50 cents a piece, or three for a dollar.

See PIE, page 3

Photo/ Dain Binder

Fellow Resident Advisor, and Student Senate President, Geoff Stowell gets ready to "cream" Tim St. James at the Criminal Justice Association's "Pie the Eye" fund-raiser.

NEWS

April 1998

THE WESTERNER

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WNEC Student and Family Help Rescue Drowning Mother, Son in Hawaii

by Greg Sukiennik
Berkshire Eagle Staff

PITTSFIELD — When Sara Grunin saw a young boy struggling to stay afloat off the coast of Hawaii on a recent vacation, she didn't think twice. Her quick action helped save the lives of the boy and his mother.

Grunin, a 21-year-old city native and senior at Western New England College, said she, her father, Ward 4 City Councilor Gary S. Grunin, and a family friend, Christopher Crawford of Brooklyn, N.Y., saw the boy from their vantage point in the Pacific Ocean.

The group, who were enjoying their final day of vacation on the island, were boogie boarding in the unusually high tide.

Once they could tell the boy was in trouble, the three started swimming toward him as fast as they could. But when they got to the youngster, they realized he was clinging to his mother — who was submerged and not breathing.

Crawford began pulling the woman to shore, while Sara, who had swum out with her boogie board still tied to her wrist, put the boy on the board.

After determining that his daughter was okay, Gary Grunin helped Crawford get the mother to land while Sara brought in the boy.

The 6-year-old boy and his mother were Japanese citizens vacationing in Hawaii, and neither spoke English.

While the boy was fine, his mother was worked on by paramedics for 15 minutes before being taken to a nearby hospital.

Meanwhile, Sara, who was shaken by the ordeal, sat with the little boy and tried to comfort him, even though the two spoke different languages.

"It didn't look good at all [for the mother]. I was very scary," Sara Grunin said. "I was just making sure the kid was OK, but he was so scared ... it was scary. I was very scared.

Everyone came up to me to offer congratulations," she said, adding that the attention felt strange. "I did what I had to do," she said.

There was, however, a reward of sorts for the three. A letter arrived at the end of March from the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel in Kamulea, Hawaii. It included thank-you notes from the hotel management and from the woman and child, Ayako Minato and her son Tetsuro, of Chiba-shi Chiba, Japan. The mother spent four days in the hospital recovering from her near drowning.

Photo/Dean Zern

Sara Grunin

"I'm sorry I didn't meet you and say thanks. Thank you for your kindness," Minato wrote with the help of hotel staff, explaining that she had swum out to save her son and didn't remember what happened next.

She also asked for photos — so she could see the faces of those who had saved her and her son's lives — and invited the three to call her if they visited Japan so they could meet.

Officers Elected; Bill Looses Student Support

by Jennifer Hastings

On March 31, Student Senate Elections were held in the mall area of the Campus Center.

The Student Senate is a student-run organization on campus that supervises and is directly involved in many activities.

Some of the responsibilities of the Student Senate include handling budgets, running activities, and organizing student-run projects.

The elections had around 200 students voting, which is around the number that voted last year, said Ryan Courtemanche, current sophomore class president.

Courtemanche, winner of the position of junior class president, had a large part in this year's elections.

He hopes that in following years voter interest will go up.

Another topic that was voted on was the Student Academic Rights and Responsibilities bill. The bill would allow students to contact a grievance committee and allow them to voice any concerns they might have.

It also would list responsibilities students have.

The bill, however, was not passed.

According to Jeff Stowell, current president of student senate, the bill received approximately 160 votes in favor and four or five votes against.

Approximately 35 students abstained from voting on the bill.

Without a two-thirds majority student vote, the bill does not receive student report.

Even if all the students who voted endorsed the bill, there still would not have been enough votes to back it.

The bill still has Senate support, however, said Courtemanche. But without student backing it will not command the same attention from faculty senate and the schools of the college.

The bill will be up for Faculty Senate discussion in the near future.

Student Election Results

President of Student Senate — Sean Boucher
Vice-President of Student Senate — Kevin Drozdowski
Senior President — Timothy St. James
Senior Vice-President — Jennifer Bonadede
Senior Secretary — Matthew Pantera
Senior Treasurer — Amy Craig
Junior Representative — Beth Maxcy
Junior President — Ryan Courtemanche
Junior Vice-President — Melissa Russell
Junior Secretary — Beth Przybyblowicz
Junior Treasurer — Gina Rinaldi
Sophomore Representatives — Mandy Allen, Sophia Peroulakis
Sophomore President — Chris McBride
Sophomore Vice-President — Antonia Salvucci
Sophomore Treasurer — Bernadette LaBonte
Sophomore Secretary — Kimberly Windish
Arts and Science Representative — Craig Nakashian
Business Representatives — David Kubera, Becky Lauber
Engineering Representative — Jeffery Kraft
Pharmacy Representative — Douglas Libby
Commuter Representative — Jennifer Perez
Resident Representatives — Erica Hasman, Shannon Hoye, Karyn Pimental
Senators at Large — Mariana Chaoul, Jon Luke

Coach Geldart Resigns

"Father of Athletics" Leaves Mysteriously

by Wayne Barr
Editor

Since the resignation of Eric Geldart, former director of the athletic department, rumors have been festering in the college community. On April 3, Dr. Brissette spoke to students in the Alumni Healthful Living Center to assuage their concerns. She did not, however, comment upon Geldart's resignation. (See cover story for more details on that meeting).

The official statement of the College raises as many questions as it answers: "After 32 years with the college, Coach Geldart has decided to step down as director of athletics and is currently investigation a variety of opportunities for the future."

Some rumors concern the possibility that Geldart will return to Western New England College next semester as a physical education instructor.

According to Greg Michael, director of career and human resources, "that is one of the opportunities [Geldart] is investigating."

The administration and faculty are reluctant to comment directly on Geldart's resignation.

"It's difficult for me to comment on the way I perceive things," said Coach William Downes, who has worked with Geldart for over three decades at Western New England College.

Their relationship, Downes explained, began on October 15, 1968, when Downes asked Geldart if he needed help running the athletic program at WNEC.

At that time Geldart was the only person in the athletic department. He was responsible for the direction of the soccer, basketball, and baseball teams. After Downes spent the remainder of the year assisting voluntarily with the athletic program, Geldart "found 100 dollars for me," said Downes.

In 1969 Downes returned for 500 dollars a year.

After 32 years at Western New England College, Geldart has resigned. Student athletes wonder why.

"You can see, I was given an opportunity to be what I always wanted to be — a college basketball coach," said Downes. "[Geldart] has been a very good friend of mine for 30-plus years ... I am saddened by his departure because of our friendship but understand that the college is choosing to go in a new direction."

Part of the "new direction," according to Downes, has to do with the relatively new Alumni Healthful Living Center.

"With a facility like this ... he should become dramatically more competitive ..." he said. "I would simply envision a very bright future to us if we had the right leadership and commitment from the administration."

Downes stressed that Geldart's own leadership was exemplary.

"He is the father of athletics here at this institution, and was for a number of years ... He would give students opportunities to begin [new] sports as clubs, and if there was enough participation he would introduce it" on a varsity level."

The changes that are taking place, Downes said, are on the "college level."

He also alluded to frustrating aspects of working in the athletic department, particularly the "budget constraints" in the 80's.

"The only thing you can be sure of in coaching is that someday you'll be fired," he said. "That's a reality that you live with."

Downes was weary of the many rumors surrounding Geldart's resignation. "Without facts you don't know what's true or not true. Rumors can be vicious," he said. "Without substantiation it's impossible to tell ..."

Downes seemed surprised that Michael said Geldart may be investigating the possibility of returning to WNEC as a physical education instructor.

"If that is an option, wouldn't it be ironic that after 30 years he'd be working for me, when I started working for him," Downes said.

PIE, from page 1

Students were able to purchase them in the mall area two days before the event.

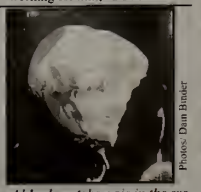
A ticket was picked for each volunteer and the lucky winner was able to throw a pie in his or her face.

In some cases the volunteers retaliated and threw pies at the raffle ticket winners.

Tom Wozniak, director of residence life, was the most willing victim, taking more than one pie in the eye.

It seemed that a good time was had by all, and the association was able to raise close to a hundred dollars.

A portion of the proceeds are being donated to the Springfield Children's Group Study Home.



Photos: Dan Binder

Al Ingham take a pie in the eye

Alpha Lambda Delta
Membership Acceptance

Mandy Allen
Mario R. Arena
Eric Badeau
Jessica Baker-Fitzgerald
Kristy Bowden
Melissa Bresse
Scott Brindle
Michael J. Brittan
Sara J. Boyle
Caryn Brennan
Emily Brower
Ben Brunese
Elizabeth Burke
Kurt Clark
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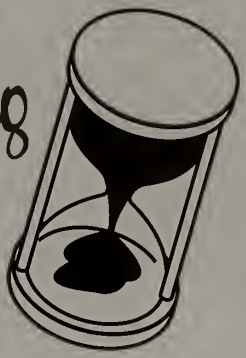
Hey Seniors!

Are you ready to write your will??

Time is Running Out



Graduation is just around the corner...don't you want to leave a lasting impression on the campus? Leave a legacy to your friends? Send that last message of thanks to your favorite instructors, coaches, and administrative staff?

Then ckeck your mail and fill out the *Senior Will* form, and return it to the Student Publications Office door (or mail it to Box 1419).

The Review of Art & Literature staff is creating a booklet of Senior Wills. You don't want to be left out!

The wills will then be available for purchase by the college community.

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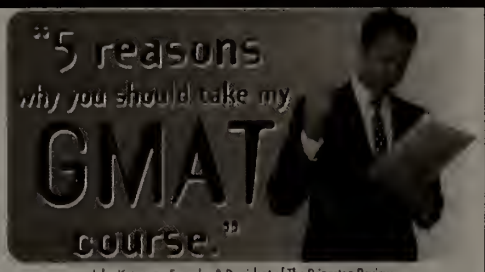
Saturday April 25th
Emerson Parking Lot
11:00 - 3:00



–John Katzman, Founder & President of The Princeton Review

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THE PRINCETON REVIEW

Dear M~

My significant other is an artist and paints nude models all the time. I have no reason to believe that I would be cheated on, and I understand that this work is artistically important, but I can't help feeling jealous. I try to reason with myself — it's an aesthetic expression, not a sexual expression, etc. — but I still get this terrible knot in my stomach every time I think about it. What can I do? Should I bring this up and talk about it or what?
~Degas' Lover

Dear Lover~

Jealousy is a very strong emotion. It would seem a bit unusual if you did not feel any jealousy.

You are right to say that your significant other's work is artistically important and that his/her work is an aesthetic expression and not a sexual one. I understand that you feel all tied up in knots when you think of your significant other with these nude models, and I think the only way you can overcome these feeling of jealousy is to talk to your love about your feelings.

I have a few friends who are artists, too. They have painted, sculpted, photographed, and sketched nude models throughout their careers so I read them your question in hopes to see the artists's point of view on the matter.

The overall consensus, my friend, was this: 1) your should talk to your significant other about your feelings of jealousy, if you don't you're going to have problems in your relationship later; 2) nude models are nude models, more often than not the artisit is not focusing on the nudeness of the model, but focusing on the work s/he is doing; 3) when working with nude models "we don't become sexually stimulated because they are not the ones that" hold our heart, make us smile, and are there for us when we need them. Models are there to work, and we are there to work. It is rare that we become anything more than just friends anyway. More often than not, they already have significant others of their own.

I had my own reservations before talking to these friends of mine about their working relationships with nude models, I know that I had never worked with nude models before; I know that my jealous feelings would begin to pop up too if I were in your situation, but after talking to these friends I am now reassured that the only way to find out what your artistic love is feeling for this nude model is to ask. Your heart won't rest until you do. Good luck.
M~

Dear M~

This guy I'm dating can't kiss! I like him, so what do I do?
~Turned Off

Dear T.O~

Teach him! If you like him that much, and the only thing that is bothering you about him happens to be the way he kisses, then you should be bold and brave and show that man how you want to be kissed!

I know that kissing is an important part of a relationship: it can be fun and sweet, it can be soft, sexy and seductive, or it can tell your love how much you missed him.

So, as I said before, TEACH HIM!

Now, I know your next question (if you would have sent one in) would have been "Well, how the hell do I do that Marilyn?" Simple darling, turn it into a game. Have some fun with it. Show him the things that you would like done to you by doing them to him. Ask him if he enjoyed the way you kissed him, and then ask him to try it on you. Maybe that will get him thinking about how he kisses and how you want to be kissed.

Don't let the poor guy go just because he doesn't have a "melt me like in the movies" kind of a kiss. Believe it or not, the movie star's kisses aren't as steamy as they seem.

You have to give this man a break, maybe he hasn't had as many opportunities as you've had to work his magic. Think about giving him another chance, I'm sure you won't regret it.
M~

Dear M~

My best friend believed a story about me, but it's not true. Now he won't talk to me. I've tried talking to him but he won't have anything to do with me.
~Help!

Dear Help~

This is not a good thing. He won't talk to you, huh?! And you didn't do what he thought you did? Well, he obviously needs to get a grip and be man enough to, at least, listen to what you have to say. I definitely wouldn't give up all hope just yet. Try asking him one more time if you guys can get together to talk.

You might want to do this by inviting him out for lunch, dinner, or coffee. Ask him what he heard (and possibly who he heard it from) that way you can learn what is causing him to end your friendship so abruptly. Also, by knowing who told him this information (if he decides to divulge this person's name) you might be able to clear things up with this person and s/he can tell your friend his/her mistake.

If this doesn't work then I guess you'll have to just know that you did your best. Good luck!
M~

Dear M~

I'm seeing this guy that has a girlfriend of 3 years. I'm not sure if I should continue dating him. I like him, but I don't want to be caught in the middle of anything.
~What now?

Dear What Now?~

What are you thinking? You don't want to be caught in the middle? Don't you think that it's too late for that?! This man has a girlfriend of 3 years, count them 1 - 2 - 3. Three years!!

She has him, he has her AND you, and you have what? Nothing! Yea, so you may get to spend time with him now, but I'm sure he's not bringing you home to meet his parents, right? And you don't really get to enjoy holidays with him, right?!

You know what you've done? You've allowed him to have his cake and eat it too. Don't you think you deserve to have someone all to yourself, someone you don't have to share with another woman?

I'm sure you can tell that I don't see this relationship you have as a healthy and productive one. I don't know, maybe it's just me, but I don't find a man that has a girlfriend (especially one of three years) to be all that attractive. Where are his morals? His values? If he can't respect his girlfriend enough to be faithful to her, then he should let her go! Do you think things would be different if "only he was with you?" Yeah, right!

My advice to you is to let this man go. Once a cheat, always a cheat. And if his excuse is that he really doesn't want to be with her, then your question should be "Why are you?"

Think about it!
M~

Dear M~

I met a guy last summer and I've just received a letter from him saying he loves me. I don't share his feelings, but I don't want to break his heart. What do I do?
~ Summer Nothing

Dear Summer~

You will break his heart more if you lead him on and DON'T tell him the truth. Why drag the poor man on a string? I have seen it happen, and the ending does not look pretty! Would you want him to do it to you? I didn't think so!

You can save your friendship by telling him how much you enjoyed his company over the summer, but that your feelings don't go any further than friendship.

My only recommendation is that you don't lie!
M~

It's your last chance to ask Marilyn a question. So what are you waiting for? Mail in your question to Box 1419 ASAP!

EDITORIALS

April 17, 1998

Let's Appreciate Our Maintenance Workers

I have never written an editorial before in my Western New England College career. However, I feel that I have waited long enough to say what I have to say. I would simply like to give a certain group of people the recognition they deserve.

I sincerely believe that our campus is beautiful and it could not have gotten the way it is by simply waving a magic wand! I have worked in the maintenance department of Western New England College for four consecutive summers, and I have to say that these men and women work their butts off to make our campus spic-and-span when students come back in September.

Our campus is simply beautiful. If you don't believe me, take a look at some other college campuses in our area. I have noticed other colleges with weed patches for landscaping, filthy floors and walls, and broken or severely damaged furniture, among other things.

Is that the kind of atmosphere that should be associated with a college? I think not.

We have just gotten over the dreaded winter season. As students, our earliest classes are at 8:00 a.m.

However, in the midst of a winter storm when classes are not canceled, these guys have to come to work when it is still dark out to battle Old Man Winter in order to make our wonderful campus safe for students and professors.

Then, as the morning and afternoon roll on, the work is not over yet. They are out in the frigid weather salting, sanding, and plowing our walkways and parking lots so that we can make it to class in one piece.

When Old Man Winter is not upon us, these outside crew members are hard at work with other things on our campus.

For instance, did you ever notice how beautiful our campus looks from Wilbraham Road? There are always nice flowers planted around the signs, and the grass is a brilliant shade of green.

In the spring and summer, I see these guys out on their hands and knees, in rain and shine, yanking weeds and making our campus look like a paradise.

To top it all off, they do it all with no recognition.

Our inside maintenance crew is another fine unit, as they perform an abundance of tasks for students and faculty alike.

Every summer, classrooms are checked to make sure desks and chairs are clean and safe.

And let's not forget the living quarters. The dorms and Gateway Village are checked inside and out for anything that may be unsafe for students.

Then, during the summer, there is also the S.O.A.R. program. These guys make sure everything is in top working order for new students and their families.

During the school year, they are still busy with such things as minor repairs or moving stages, tables and chairs around for presentations.

The Housekeeping Department is another efficient unit. Did you ever notice the cleanliness of our buildings, including the classrooms and restrooms? They are simply spotless.

No matter where I am on campus, I can always hear the hum of a vacuum cleaner or the shuffling of a mop or broom.

The dormitories are another story. These men and women are constantly making the dorms clean and safe for students every morning.

Last but not least, there is the Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Department. What can I say? The buildings are the perfect temperature every time. Ladies and gentlemen, keep up the good work.

Okay. I have said what I wanted to say. Now I just ask of you: next time you see one of our hard working maintenance members on campus, tell him or her what a nice job is being done.

After all, if it weren't for these people, our campus would not be half as beautiful as it is today.

Anonymous

Could your name appear on these pages? Bring your editorials to the Student Publications Office or e-mail to westedit@hotmail.com

Letter to the Editors

Public Safety Chief Responds to Student Survey

In response to the recent article in the April 3 edition on Public Safety, I would just like to say as the Director of Public Safety that I wholeheartedly agree that officers need to interact more with the community. In fact, I want you all to know that the Public Safety Officers also agree.

In early January this year, all Public Safety Officers took part in a training and planning workshop for community-based problem-solving for campus police. The workshop, which lasted several days, was facilitated by Captain William Boyer, who is a noted community policing expert in Massachusetts, having served on the governor's panel to review community policing and partnership programs statewide.

The process in workshop engaged the energy and potential in the department. Some very specific suggestions and agreements grew out of the discussion:

1. The Western New England College Department of Public Safety is committed to professionalism in all aspects.

2. The Western New England College Department of Public Safety believes it must be accountable to the community it serves.

3. The Western New England College Department of Public Safety will involve the community in the delivery of its services.

4. The Western New England College Department of Public Safety is dedicated to preserving and advancing the principles of democracy.

5. The Western New England College Department of Public Safety places its highest value on preservation of Constitutional Rights.

6. The Western New England College Department of Public Safety believes that the prevention of crime is its number one operational priority.

Four teams of officers, each headed by a supervisor, were formed to look at potential building blocks needed to start the change process. Each identified an objective and subsequent tasks necessary to implement the objective. An action plan to address community needs by implementing a community-based problem-oriented strategy has begun.

The four objectives are:

1. To increase the Western New England College Department of Public Safety's responsiveness to the college community and surrounding neighborhood. The following are a few examples:

*Make use of all opportunities to develop joint projects with faculty, students, and the surrounding community.

*Encourage community members to participate in identifying problems.

2. To develop Western New England College Department of Public Safety policing strategies oriented to provide effective community services to the college community. For example:

*Present yourself in a "positive" light; build trust with the students so they seek out our services. Raise expectations and meet them! See and don't forget the student as an individual.

*Conduct a training skills needs assessment.

3. To develop a value and mission statement for the Western New England College Department of Public Safety.

4. To establish roles and responsibility within the Western New England College Department of Public Safety for managing and coordinating community and problem solving initiatives. For example:

*Restructure and prioritize workload and services to free up patrol time for community-based problem solving. Give officers time to develop rapport and trust with people in the community and to generate proactive efforts.

*Research some alternatives to traditional handling of calls for service.

This is just the beginning of a process, and by Fall 1998 a comprehensive plan will be available for your review and comment at the Department of Public Safety or the D'Amour Library.

Thanks and I hope everyone has a great summer.

Gary R. Barnes
Director of Public Safety

You Should Be Walking!

On Sunday, May 3, Project Bread will be holding its annual Walk for Hunger in Boston. About 45,000 people will walk all or part of the 20-mile route, eating food provided by corporate sponsors and using 97% of the portable toilets in Massachusetts.

This will be my sixth Walk. I have raised about $700 to feed hungry families in the past five years, and hope to continue helping out as long as I have healthy legs and feet.

The first time I heard about the Walk, I laughed. Twenty miles? Yeah, right.

But I decided it'd be fun. A group of us got to the Boston Common about 7:00 in the morning. By 11:00, it was about 90 degrees out.

We sat down often, but because of the heat, muscle atrophy didn't set in until about mile 18.

We drank tons of water, and finished the Walk by about 5:00 that afternoon.

We even ran the last half mile to prove we could. Sure, it took us 10 hours, but we had done it! We had walked 20 miles!

The next year, it rained. Hard. The sky was an ominous gray until we hit the 10 mile marker, and then it opened up.

Ten miles was a long way, especially for those who had never done the Walk before, and the rain wasn't helping.

By mile 13, several people with blue hands opted to take the bus back to the start and wait for us to finish.

The rain did not let up, and we were all in a lot of pain by the 15th mile. Anybody who had made it to mile 15, though, stayed on to finish, and though it took almost twice as long to do the second half of the Walk as it took to do the first, we were glad we finished.

Last year, the weather was as close to perfect as it's been for the Walk since I've been doing it. The sun beat down, but it never got above 75 degrees. It could have been a little cooler, but it was a nice day.

We finished the Walk in just under six hours, something I'm not sure I'll be able to repeat this year, but to have walked 20 miles before 2:00 in the afternoon prompted a great feeling. Talk about a sense of accomplishment!

If you would like to do the Walk for Hunger this year, or if you would like to sponsor a walker (me), send e-mail to westedit@hotmail.com.

It's not just a physical feat for those who finish it, but the Walk is for a good cause.

Thousands of hungry families in Massachusetts will in the next few months because of any donations people are willing to give, time or money.

Josh Shear

Club Information

New Psychology Club Ends First Year on Campus

Students Interested in Psychology Ecouraged to Join

There is a new club on campus. Do you know what it is? It is the Psychology Club.

The Psychology Club was formed last September, and its membership is growing as you read this.

Presently the club has approximately 35 to 40 members, including its four officers: Christina Shaw, president; Christa Murphy, vice president; Becky LaValley, secretary; and Kyle Schadler, treasurer. Professor Hank Schlinger is the club's advisor.

The Psychology club is open to all members of the campus who are psychology majors, or who may be thinking of becoming psychology majors, or who just may be interested in the field.

Unlike Psi Chi, the Psychology Club is not an honors association and does not require a minimum GPA to join. Still, it offers the opportunity to learn more about the field of psychology.

This academic year, so far, the club has held a fund-raiser in which a portable CD player and two Sophia's gift certificates were awarded. Members of the club have also gone to an overnight conference in Boston. They are also making T-shirts for their members.

The winner of the walkman was Jason Tzery; second and third place winners were Martin Steed and Brandon Shoenfeld, respectively.

The Psychology Club is still young, and its officers feel it has a long way to go. If you are interested in becoming a member or officer - or if you have some great ideas for the club — please contact any member or present officer, or come to the next meeting.

Christina Shaw
Psychology Club President

Club President Christina Shaw gives away CD player to Jason Tzery

What Rivers Gym Should Be

Rivers Gym is the old gym that was used before the Alumni Healthful Living Center was built. As of now, it is being used for offices.

I honestly believe we should turn this gym into a theater, because it could be used for a number of different things.

WNEC is well-known for its diverse class offerings. Just this past year, WNEC implemented the Wholistic Student Development Program.

The WSDP seeks to develop all aspects of a student, including the spiritual, physical and intellectual.

The program is great because it is extremely important for a student to develop different aspects of him- or herself.

The only aspect that is missing from the WSDP is the theatrical/musical part.

During summer orientation and registration this past year, I heard many people commenting that WNEC has only one music class, which is devoted only to the history of music.

Where are the singing, dancing, and acting classes that would help introduce students to those particular parts of life?

One reason this gym should be a theater is that students would be able to perform and actually have acting classes right in the theater. Talent shows, recitals, and other Friday night events could take place there.

Many students at WNEC play an instrument or enjoy singing, yet do not have an outlet to express their abilities.

There are many other reasons Rivers Gym should be converted to a theater. We would be able to have well-known bands play for our spring week. The college does bring comedians to campus, but they are not as good as bands. Many bands turn WNEC down because we don't have a theater where they can perform. The HLC is a gym, not a place where bands want to play.

Another reason is along the same lines as the previous one: we need more activities on weekends. Not many people attend Fridays.

Instead of spending so much money on that program, why not have all events in the theater?

The snack bar is too small to hold WNEC students. We could use Rivers Gym as a bigger place so activities won't be limited due to a lack of space.

If Rivers Gym were turned into a theater, it could also be used as a nightclub. Many students have expressed interest in having a nightclub on campus.

If there are going to be offices in Rivers Gym, that is all the building could be used for. Wouldn't it make more sense to make it into something that could be used for multiple purposes?

Regina Nato

Special Section

Faculty Profiles

The professors at Western New England College often have interesting stories to tell. As a group, they are just as diverse as the student body they teach. Many have been at WNEC for years, same for a short time. This section, which features just a few of the many faculty members on campus, is a tribute to them and their work.

Teaching Ancient History in the Modern World

A Brief Look at the Life of an Adjunct

by Wayne Barr
Editor

When Professor Daniel Teravella was a sixth grader at South School in Windsor Locks, Conn., his teacher began a history lesson about the Greeks and Romans with a question.

He asked the class how they thought the Romans had gotten to Judea, where Jesus was living.

For young Teravella, something clicked. "I thought, 'yeah, how did they get there?'"

The rest, as they say, is history. Teravella became fascinated with the study of all things ancient. "I always liked the Romans more," he said. "I've always liked old things."

By the seventh grade Teravella was reading an abridged version of Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire."

"You can probably tell I didn't have too much of a social life," Teravella, who is currently teaching as an adjunct at Western New England College, said with a smile.

From junior high and high school he went on to earn his BA at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania. He earned his master's degree in ancient history at the University of Chicago.

As an undergraduate he took a classical studies tour in Italy, where he visited Rome, Pompeii, and Greek sites in South Italy. "I was not as knowledgeable then as I am now," he said, adding that he'd "love to go back, if someone would pay my way."

That Teravella has visited the classical sites about which he teaches only once is surprising. His lectures are often dense with idiosyncrasies of the ancient world, and he speaks of excavations and archaeological digs as if he has seen them firsthand.

Perhaps this is because most of the sources for the ancient Greek and Roman periods are available here in the United States. "For the most part I can do what I need to do here," he said of his research.

In fact, many of the ancient sources are available at D'Amour Library, Teravella said.

Teravella also teaches courses at UCONN and SUNY, and when he can he works on his dissertation, which is still "being molded."

In general terms, the dissertation is about Roman urban disorder in the ancient city of Rome. He is looking in particular at the way Roman authors describe threats made to Rome, and trying to understand "how they characterized Rome by the terms they use to describe riots, disorders, floods" and other disasters.

Being an adjunct professor as he does his research "has its plusses and minuses," Teravella said.

He considers himself fortunate, for example, to be able to acquire a great variety of experience by teaching a many different of courses.

"I like teaching a variety of things," he said. "It helps me in my own work — I can come at my studying from different angles."

On the other hand, he spends a lot of time traveling back and forth between the schools at which he teachers.

Also, Teravella feels that adjuncts are typically suspended from the day-to-day goingson at the college. "I don't advise or attend meetings ... I'm just someone who hovers around from place to place," he said

And, of course, adjunct professors make significantly less money than tenured professors — although Teravella said that WNEC is more generous than some other colleges.

"I do like it here, and am glad to be here, despite the adjunct situation," said Teravella. "That's just a necessary evil where I'm at right now."

Teravella would like to teach full-time in a four-year college in New England, although he admits that he "can't be too picky" given the paucity of teaching positions in the area.

He has been filling in for Professor Johnson-South, who is currently on sabbatical. Teravella may return next year to teach a Western Civilization course and, if there is room, another special topics course covering some aspect of ancient Roman or Greek history.

From Rwanda to New England

by Josh Shear
Editorial and Opinions Editor

Eleven years ago, when Professor Jean-Marie Higiro of the English Department was earning his Ph.D. in communications at the University of Texas at Austin, his wife had their second child, a girl.

Before the family left the U.S. for their native Rwanda, Higiro made sure he had his daughter's birth certificate and U.S. passport.

Today, he thanks that baby girl for his life.

Professor Higiro was the director of the Rwanda Information Office when a new regime came to power in 1994. This position put him in charge of Radio Rwanda, Rwandan television, and all public print media.

Along with everything the job required of him, Higiro had the last word on what stories were broadcast or printed. Because he allowed stories from both the regime in power and opposing groups, he was seen as an opposition leader.

When the genocidal massacres in Rwanda began in early 1994, opponents of the regime who worked in government positions were among the first people to be murdered.

Higiro held onto his job as long as he thought he could do it safely, even though toward the end of his stay at the Information Office he was sending his personal car on one route home and taking a journalist's car on a separate route.

He lived in constant fear of being ambushed. Meanwhile, the bullets and bombs everyone could see and hear from the road were not doing anything to calm his nerves.

One day, he grabbed his daughter's passport and birth certificate and brought his family to the house of one of his friends. On his second day there, Higiro made two phone calls: one to his cooks, who had stayed at his house, and one to the American Embassy in Rwanda.

He learned from his cooks that five soldiers had been to the house each of the past two days looking for him. When he told the American Embassy he had a daughter who was born in the U.S. and had her documentation to prove it, a diplomat sent a car to pick up the family.

A convoy of cars with American flags waving on their hoods — one of them carrying the Higiro family, passed through several roadblocks, and finally crossed into Burundi.

The family was airlifted by the U.S. Marines from Burundi to Nairobi, Kenya. After three months at the American Embassy in Kenya, the family was flown to the U.S., where each member was admitted as a refugee.

In July, a new government was formed in Rwanda, with one of Higiro's friends in a position of power. The friend contacted him, and offered him the position of Minister of Information, a job Prof. Higiro accepted.

When news reached him in the U.S. that his friend had been killed, however, he changed his mind.

The family settled in New Hampshire, and Higiro spent a year as a visiting professor at the University of New Hampshire. He then spent the next two years at Miami of Ohio University before coming to Western New England College.

Here, he teaches classes in communications and journalism.

His parents have returned to Rwanda, and Higiro still tracks the news there from the French Press Agency's web page.

He would like to go back to Rwanda someday, but is not willing to return as long as the government is still openly violating human rights.

From Rutland to Winooski and Beyond

Professor Fish Talks about the Writing Life

by Wayne Barr
Editor

Sometimes the muse does not wait for a red light.

It did not wait for Professor Charles Fish, who in 1992 was driving to Western New England College from his home in Vermont when he was struck by an important thought. As he drove he jotted it down in a notebook he keeps in the passenger seat.

It was the first written sentence of what would become his first book, "In Good Hands: The Care of a Family Farm."

That sentence, which now appears on page 211 of "In Good Hands," describes the old scrapbook which contains Fish's boyhood diary: "It was fatter once, this stained and battered book, its thinness, when it came to me, a testimony to the frugality of careful people."

"Maybe not those precise words, but more or less those words," said Fish, "set a tone. Of course, you don't write a book based on tone, but somehow things snapped into focus."

Some aspect, some attitude of the book, became clear, he said.

*

"In Good Hands," a critical memoir examining the structure and patterns of agrarian life in the context of a larger, changing world — as well as invoking the boyhood adventures of woodchuck hunting, swimming and fishing, and stampeding farm animals — was published three years later by Farrar, Straus, and Giroux.

It was not the first time Fish has had his work published. Out of graduate school Fish published what he calls "incidental pieces" — reviews and criticism — and he also wrote critical articles and short stories.

Although the bulk of his work, including "In Good Hands," has been in the form of essays and criticism, Fish has not given up the idea of writing fiction.

"I may revisit those stories some day," he chuckled. "Almost all English teachers, at some point in their lives, imagine themselves writing poetry or fiction. ... I have thoughts for another kind of book ... a fictional memoir."

Fish, who teaches literature (often in a political context), simply did not believe fiction was the right mode for a book culled mainly from his experiences during the summer of 1944, when as a seven-year-old he stayed at his Uncle's and Grandmother's farm in Rutland, Vermont.

"I wanted to start with fact," he said. "I wanted to ground it in reality insofar as one can capture reality ... these people [in the book] are the people as they were."

Fish had a personal motive for writing "In Good Hands," too. "For some reason, it seemed important to me to try to write about his part of my life. I really did want to come to terms with who I was," he said.

The book he finished is markedly different from the book that was eventually published. Like Henry Adams' autobiography, Fish's memoir was written entirely in the third person. The characters — ancestors and members of his family, some still living — were unnamed, and he referred to himself only as the "traveler."

In the third person, however, Fish was able to "write about it more freely."

After reading the first draft, Fish's wife persuaded him to make it more personal. He took her advice and was glad for it. "If you keep an open mind, you may make significant changes," he said.

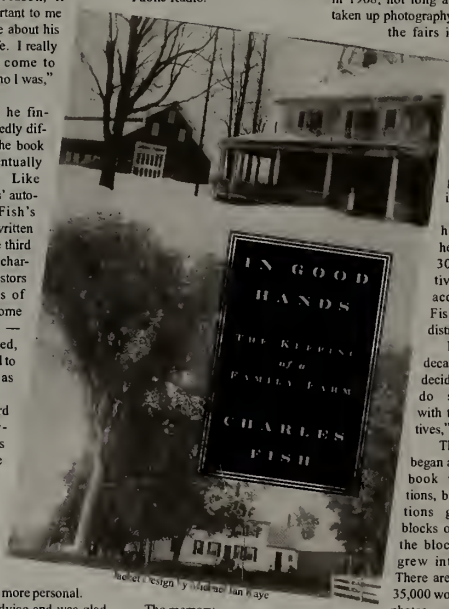
Fish gave the manuscript to Dean Burton Porter and Rosemary O'Donoghue; Porter recommended it to an agent, who called Fisb to say that he liked the book and wanted to represent it.

Fish sent more copies to the agent, who needed them for distribution to different publishing houses.

Two days later, in his office at Herman Hall, Fish's phone rang. It was his agent. Fish asked if he'd received the books. The agent said he had.

"They're superfluous," he said in what Fish thought to be a critical change of heart. What the agent meant, actually, was that he had sold the book — the extra manuscript copies were unnecessary.

After 12 distinct revisions, the book was published in 1995. It was not long before Fish became a minor local celebrity. In addition to giving "a lot of readings," he was interviewed by Noah Adams on National Public Radio. He was also a guest on a call-in show for Wisconsin Public Radio, and was interviewed for a half-hour on New Hampshire Public Radio and 15 minutes on Vermont Public Radio.



The memory of some readings are special to Fish. In Brattleboro, for example, a reunion held with guests from each stage of Fish's career.

Professor Nancy Hoar arranged for Fish a dinner and a reading at the Odyssey bookstore.

And a reunion was held at the Vermont chapel about which Fish wrote in his book.

"Five people who appear in the book were at the reading [at the chapel] — much older there than in the book," Fish said.

"I like performing. I enjoy it," he said.

*

Since 1995, Fish has been busy with other projects. His next book, "Blue Ribbons and Burlesque: A Book of Country Fairs," has been accepted for publishing by Countryman Press, a division of W. W. Norton.

It is the end of a project started in 1968, not long after he had taken up photography. Going to the fairs in Vermont gave him the "idea of doing some kind of photo project," and to that end he began shooting pictures.

When he finished he had over 3000 negatives. Then, according to Fish, he "got distracted."

Nearly two decades later, "I decided to try to do something with those negatives," he said.

The concept began as a picture book with captions, but the captions grew into blocks of text, and the blocks of text grew into essays. There are now over 35,000 words for 220 photos.

The book will be divided into different sections: animals, food and games, feats of skill and daring, the crowd, freak shows, girlie shows, rides, and curtain-fall (an epilogue).

"Blue Ribbons and Burlesque" treats country fairs in a way similar to "In Guod Hands," which briefly discusses them in a chapter titled "Work."

Fish believes the fair functions in different capacities: it is an opportunity to display excellence, "the best of things"; it is also a chance to get a "glimpse of things that are tawdry and forbidden the rest of the year"; and it is also a theatre to "stimulate our imagination."

As he wrote the text for the book, Fish interviewed people to discover the more idiosyncratic details of horse training, farming, and other aspects of fair life.

*

The writing life of Charles Fish does not end there. Last semester, he took a sabbatical during which he worked on yet another project: a book about the Winooski River Valley in northern Vermont.

"Winooski," Fish pointed out, means "in the land of the wild onion."

The book will look at the valley through the eyes of people who have knowledge of it — geologists, trappers, power plant operators, farmers, fishermen, conservationists, archeologists, and others.

The bulk of the book, Fish said, will be devoted to these people and their personal experiences.

It does not yet have a publisher, though: unlike a lot of professional writers who send ideas, proposals, or chapters to their agents, Fish said he "like[s] to think I have done the job the whole way" before presenting it to his readership.

And, despite his personal writing projects and ambitions, Fish does not feel burdened by the amount of teaching WNFC requires of its professors.

That work, like his own, is something he considers important and is grateful to be able to do, he said.

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Professor Bridges Gap Between Students, Faculty

by George Semenie, Jr.
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Professor Marilyn Pelosi began teaching at Western New England College seventeen years ago. When she began her career here, she taught industrial engineering.

It was not until 1985 that she was hired by Dean Kowolski to

teach in the business department. Industrial engineering was small for her, and she said that there was not much room to breathe. Business had a wider variety which Pelosi preferred.

What is really interesting is how Professor Pelosi lives her life outside WNEC.

Her spare time is filled with writing, reading, hiking, and traveling.

She takes aerobics classes and attends athletic events that are held in the Alumni Healthful Living Center

Pelosi loves her job and her students. She thinks a bar on campus, as there was in times back, is a great idea, since it would give the faculty another venue, besides the AHLC, to be with the students. She did express the importance of enforcing the drinking age, however, and said it should be observed.

Pelosi describes herself as a "high-energy, caring, zany, and unpredictable" person. She wants to be looked at as a regular person. Too often students see professors outside the academic area and treat them differently.

Pelosi talked about how close the faculty is at WNEC — she described the faculty she works with as a second family. She is a family-oriented woman and loves to help people in any way possible. She is an ear to talk to and sometimes a shoulder to cry on.

Some places she would love to go but has not yet gone to are Greece, Europe and Italy. Other goals include giving back to the community that has given her so much. As to her regrets, she said there is "nothing that I can think of."

Pelosi is a member of the WNEC community who is very approachable.

Students have observed that whenever she is on campus she has a smile on her face and greets them with a sincerity that goes almost unmatched.

She said that students should relax sometimes and not worry so much.

"In the end," she said, "the rest of it doesn't matter."

Communication and Chocolate

Western New England College Mentor Loves Stained Glass, Sweets, and Teaching

by Heidi Drewec

Dr. Nancy Hoar's office clearly shows her love of chocolate. Five and 10-pound Hershey chocolate wrappers decorate part of the wall. Hoar is serious about her work, but she like to have fun while teaching students on campus. The wrappers seem to be one way she brightens her office, along with colorful Star Trek and stained glass pictures.

When asked what her message to the WNEC community would be, her face lit up, and she echoed a message she often hears from the students: "I thought it was going to be hard, but if you work hard at it, you get it."

She also stated, "I love to hear of students' successes and to be invited to their weddings. It makes me feel good."

For the past 15 years, Hoar has been an integral part of the WNEC community. She teaches many communications courses now that were not part of the curriculum when she first arrived at WNEC in 1982.

Hoar has also seen many changes occur on the WNEC campus. When she first arrived, the library was in Churchill and there was no campus police or CUB building. Gateway Village was purchased and developed after she was hired here. More faculty and academic courses are also now available.

"There have been big physical changes," she stated.

Hoar enjoys doing many activities. Some of these are hiking and biking during the summer, traveling, keeping in touch with friends through the Internet, and making stained glass.

She made a unique stained-glass fish tank with her own hands. The back of the tank is stained glass with figures of fish.

"Of course the fish aren't real, so they don't die." When she filled the tank with water and put gravel on the bottom, the fish tank was complete!

See HOAR, next page

Coach Downes to Leave WNEC After 30 Years

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

Coach William Downes, the dean of coaches at Western New England College, has been at this institution for three decades.

Downes, a graduate of Springfield College has numerous sports accomplishments that most coaches could only dream of in their wildest fantasies.

Downes will remain at this institution for one more year.

When he leaves, he will be greatly missed by the faculty, students and athletes who have known him.

He began his prominent career at Western New England College in 1968.

Initially, he was hired as the assistant basketball coach for the 1968-1969 season.

In 1970, his coaching level status was brought to a new plateau. William Downes became head coach of the men's soccer team, where his squad compiled a remarkable 190-127-31 record (.604 winning percentage) over the 19 years he was coach.

In 1977 William Downes became the men's basketball coach. He coached the team for nine seasons, finishing with a century's worth of victories at — 100.

Downes also took reign of the baseball team in addition to becoming director of the Western New England College intramural sports program.

He pioneered and is head of the first physical education program this institution had to offer.

Downes currently coaches the golf team — his eleventh consecutive season.

During this time he has led the team to victory. Under him the Golden Bears won four consecutive Constitution Athletic Conference Championships, from 1990-1993.

He is also the only coach the golf team has ever had.

The greatest personal feats that Downes enjoyed included obtaining a remarkable seven District Championships in soccer and reaching the playoffs in basketball nearly every season.

"My goal has always been to reach the National Tournament, and that gives me the right to try and get the maximum out of them," said Coach Downes.

He further indicated that it was "great to be around players who had good work ethics and allowed me to push them towards their potential."

Despite his hard work and dedication as a coach, Downes attributes his success to working full-time at this institution, unlike

See DOWNES, next page

The Stats on Veronesi

by Nicole Pizzuti
Staff Writer

Name: Richard Veronesi
Height: 5' 10"
Weight: 168lb
Eyes: Hazel
Hair: White
Pets: One Dog, Two Cats
Education: 1961 B.S. Mechanical Engineering at Western New England College
Tenure at WNEC: 37 Years

Veronesi, circa 1975

Professional Experience: Worked at United Technologies for three years as senior project engineer for DOT Turbo Train and as senior analytical engineer. Was responsible for developing the equations for the Jupiter Fly-By Mission vehicle. Has been working as an engineering consultant for twenty-three years for various companies.

WNEC Experience: Professor of Engineering & Chair of the Department. Prior experience as Director of Nontraditional Program Development, Director of Off-Campus Programs, Assistant Dean of Engineering. Member to many committees and organizations, and faculty advisor to numerous societies and clubs

Killer WNEC Courses: "Mechanics & Materials," "Design of Machine Elements" (abbreviated DOME but referred to as DOOM by most frightened seniors). Each class has an average test time of 213 minutes.

Famous Project: The Bridge Building Project where, with the few given materials (posterboard, glue, string, craft sticks, etc.), the student must create a structure that can hold a minimum of 2 bricks, up to 25 or 30 bricks.

Major Cause: Supporting the ME students and improving the course structure. Has been positive support to the students in the recent restructuring of the lab and understanding our pain.

Well Known Comments: "What the hell!" "Here we are, Rocket Science 101!" "T.M." ("Trust Me", used when he feels there is not a need to spend a class deriving an equation).

Hobbies: Model railroading, gourmet cooking & eating, visiting Italy every summer (he speaks fluent Italian).

Summary: Professor Veronesi is the epitome of a true and honest teacher. His teaching methods are straightforward with no B.S. He loads up the work and the students do it, no question. Students know they will leave his course (if they do not have a nervous breakdown in the meantime) with a better knowledge of the subject and of problem solving in general.

His years at WNEC have involved a multitude of activities that have helped the students and improved the curriculum.

Who Am I?

It's more than an ontological question. Time changes people in ways that are not immediately obvious. See if you can recognize professors and administrators who have been at Western New England College for ten, twenty, even thirty years and are still working today. Answers at bottom.

Why not consider law?

Roger Williams University Ralph R. Papitto School of Law is still accepting applications for the Fall 1998 Entering Class. The priority deadline is May 15, 1998, but applications will be accepted after that date. June LSAT's will also be considered.

For a catalog and application call Eric Reed at **800-633-2727** or write to us at the address below.

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DOWNES, *from previous page*

nearly all the present college coaches.

According to *Western New England College's Study of Athletics*, it has been recommended that more full-time coaches be hired, and that an Athletic Advisory Committee for our Division III program be established.

The Committee would be made up of faculty representatives, administration, alumni and the students.

The *Study of Athletics* indicated that "The Athletic Advisory Committee would not be a policy making board, but rather a forum for discussion and suggestion of policy related to matters pertaining to intercollegiate sports at the College."

The Advisory Committee would also assist in forming the goals and objectives of the athletic department as well as monitoring the progress of these goals.

William Downes added that a significant problem is that there was better financial aid for the sports programs in the 1970's-1980's then there is now.

According to the *Study of Athletics*, "coaches report that the College's inability to match or in some cases, even come close to other colleges with which we compete for students has resulted in the loss of many fine young men and women student-athletes who would have otherwise attended Western New England College."

A lack of good financial aid packages for athletes appears to be the determining factor why many students either do not attend this institution or decide to transfer.

The sports study further noted that "Intercollegiate athletic programs on the Division III level that are considered to be successful in fulfilling their mission of service to students and the campus community are those that demonstrate clear vision, strong leadership, a spirit of teamwork and clear support from top-level administration."

It is evident that Western New England College needs to hire more full-time coaches who are dedicated to the athletic program and its athletes, especially with the loss of Coach Downes.

HOAR, *from previous page*

Growing with WNEC students is another of Hoar's hobbies. Not only does she teach the students, but she also gets to know them as individuals.

She loves talking with students, watching them graduate and acting as the marshal during graduation ceremonies.

Along with her other activities, Hoar is an active member of the National Communication Association which meets annually, and the Rural Communication Association which meets once every two years.

These associations give Hoar the chance not only to learn more about her field but also to meet new people. Hoar is one of the unique professors on campus who has been making lives change by teaching here for over 15 years.

***Who Am I?* — Answers**

Top Row: Joan Dickinson
Henry Bazan, Edward Janeski
Middle Row: Maureen Hart
Renee Michael Meeropol
Gerhard Kempf, Bottom Row:
Delmar Malcox, Theodore Zeman,
Eugene Angus

Arts & Entertainment

April 17, 1998

Little Star with a Powerful Voice

Young Vocalist Shows Maturity, Restraint on New CD

by Nicole Pizzuti
Staff Writer

Saying that Kimberly Scott has potential would be a drastic understatement.

Expecting typical R&B sound from this 11-track album, this little girl blew the lid off typical music of this sort and shows huge talent.

For a pint size young girl, Scott truly has handed out a shockingly good album. This album, titled "Kimberly Scott," contains a good mix of cool R&B songs with terrific vocals.

Although the first few songs seem to have the same general sound and beat, the upbeat "Ainit nothin' but a Party" gives a little more *umph* to an otherwise mellow album.

There is also a cameo by Wyclef, which adds a bit of acoustic rap on "Tuck Me In."

It is difficult to compare her to popular R&B stars, but she honestly does fit in that category as far as talent.

And throughout the entire album, you don't get one of those high pitch squeals that seems to be so popular lately, coming from our pop queens.

The CD also contains some bonus multimedia fun, which is enjoyable if you are a fan. It contains some pictures of Scott in her most carefree poses and childish clothing.

Basically, Scott's voice is one of those quietly kept secrets.

This girl owes a lot to her manager or whoever is in charge for not letting her become overplayed and overworked, therefore become a passing fade.

Scott can definitely become something long term if she plays her cards right.

Photo: Lisa Pearson

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Asked:

What is your favorite line from Austin Powers?

Mike Maziarz (left), Junior: "Want to shag now or shag later?"
Nevil (center), Junior: "I shagged her, I shagged her rotten baby, yea!"
John Luke (right): "One Swedish made penis enlarger"

Dave Kennedy, Sohpmore: He is so funny, I love when he says, 'I'll hold the world ranson for one million dollars!'"

Allen Hua, Junior: "My favorite part is when Dr. Evil is getting made and says, 'All I wanted is some sharks with friken laser beams attached to their foreheads!'"
Heather McFarland, Senior: "Shh, Shh...That is a pre-empted shh before you say anything at all. Shh. I've got a whole bag of shh with your name on it!"

Khem, Graduate Stuident: "'Do I make you humy baby?'
And then he points to his behind, 'Yea, baby, yea!'"

Andy Wayner (right), Junior: "He always says, 'One hundred million dollars!!!' I love it!"

Deirdre Merlino (left), Freshman: "I love when Austin is on the bed and he's tripping over and over."

Martin Dyrkacz, Sophomore: "I like the part when he is getting his stuff. They give him the penis enlarger, 'That's not mine baby, somebody's playing a prank on me!'"

Natalie Pisarcik (left) Senior: "Austin Powers rules! I love him and I want to shag him rotten baby, yea! I like when he says 'I'm just tring to get a rise out of you Vannessa, for shits and giggles!' and 'NERD ALERT!'"
Paul Pereira (right), Sohpomore: "Shag baby!"

It's Barbecue Season at WNEC!

by George Semanie, Jr.
Arts and Entertainment Editor

The air is fresh and spring has arrived just in time to start the grill. Barbecues have been a favorite program event that all the students can enjoy. On any given sunny day one can smell the aroma of charcoal burning and burgers cooking.

A barbecue also makes for a great program that the residents of the college can enjoy.

Resident Advisors take advantage of the Barbecues because they attract students. Some of the best barbecues that occurred on campus were those started by RA Matt DeFranco.

He said they attract the students.

I asked him the best time to have the barbecue and he said, "Midnight barbecues on the weekend are great. The students who are visiting their friends in the Resident Halls have somewhere to eat late night."

In Gateway Village residents are seen cooking outdoors and enjoying the days of spring. "Bar B Que's are great, they give us a chance to relax with our friends and have a good time during the weekend days," said Mike Trella.

Every one benefits from the Barbecues that go on during the weekend.

Since it is the time of the year when finals are coming up, a chance to relax is nice.

So, I invite those who have not participated in any barbecues to do so as soon as possible. They are a great way to relax with your friends and enjoy food prepared yourself.

Prepare Yourselves

The Review of Art & Literature Gets a New Look

Last year *The Review of Art & Literature* won a first place award for its content and presentation from the American Scholastic Press Association.

Do you remember what the book from last year looked like? It was about the size of an 81/2 X 11 piece of paper — folded in half.

Last year was not the first that *The Review* was this size; in 1994 *The Review* changed in size to make the magazine to look like a book.

This year the staff of *The Review* decided it was time for another change. This year's magazine is now a full size magazine, with a glossy cover, and artist and author bios.

On Thursday, April 30, *The Review* will be distributing its magazine, along with *The Cupola*, outside near the gazebo.

You don't want to miss this year's issue.

Gateway Block Party

by George Semanie, Jr.
Arts and Entertainment Editor

It has been an annual event in Gateway Village for some time now and it keeps on going. Gateway RHA, with the help of Gateway Residence Life Staff, has held a positive program for all Gateway Residents.

The event was held in the middle parking lot with students having three-on-three basketball games, cotton candy, sumo wrestling, and a bar-b-Que.

T-shirts were given out to residents of Gateway and the option to have them tie-dyed was also available.

"It seemed everyone who was here had a good time." said Jeff Hungarter.

It seems as though every year the Block Party goes on whether it is a cold or wet day. One year, back in '93, the first Block Party was held on a glorious day. For five years the Block Party has continued, and changes have been made to it every year. Some years alcohol is served at the event, and some years it is not.

When I asked Dino Cencetti, a resident of Gateway, if alcohol should have been served to those of age he said, "Absolutely, it would attract more people to the event."

The Block Party will continue to be a success with the help of the students that make it possible. As Hungarter said, people seemed to have a good time. Those of you that missed it can look forward to next year. With the grill going and sumo wrestling, there is bound to be a good time ahead.

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Sports

April 17, 1998

Baseball Team Passes Milestone

Coach Williams Gets 100th Win

by Ryan O'Connor
Staff Writer

After a rocky start, the baseball team seems to be back in the swing of things. The team lost their first six games of the season but have had a four-game winning streak. As of early April, the Golden Bears had compiled a record of 4-6. Although the team looked sluggish in their first few games, players have started to come around. The team showed the first signs of life when they played nationally ranked Amherst College.

The Golden Bears only lost 2-1, playing strong the whole game and proving that they can compete against a team of that stature. The reason why the team is 4-0 as of late is because of players like Ryan Melle, who has been hitting the ball well, and pitchers like Brian Beekman and Paul Heering, who have been consistently finding the strike zone. The Golden Bears' first win came on April 2 against MCLA, formally called North Adams State College.

Brian Beekman pitched seven solid innings, only giving up 2 runs in a 10-2 win. Other players who contributed to the win were Rob Haigh, who had a double, a single and an RBI. Melle also swung the bat well and contributed three hits to the game.

The next two wins were against WPI, in a double header on April 4th at home.

On a cold and blustery Saturday, the Golden Bears were anything but cold. Sophomore pitcher Paul Heering threw a complete game while racking up ten strikeouts in a 3-1 victory. Besides great pitching from Heering, the Golden Bears bats were hot all day. Lou Russell helped out Heering by getting two hits.

In the second game of action the tables never turned for WPI as Western New England College triumphed 16-7. The winning pitcher was Adam Hoben, who pitched a good game. The game was close until Ryan Melle stepped up to the plate with the bases loaded and drove the ball over the fence for his first Grand Slam of his college career. Chris Bosque added an insurance run with a home run.

The following day Western New England College played the MASS College Of Pharmacy. Although the team played three games in two days, the Golden Bears were anything but tired. In three games WNEC scored an impressive thirty-five runs. Kyle Snurkowski took the mound for WNEC in a game that never seemed to be a close one — a convincing 16-2 victory for the Golden Bears.

Not only did the team win its fourth straight win, but Coach Williams received his 100th career win as head coach.

When Heering was asked what he thought turned this team around he said, "The first couple games we were all a little rusty, but once we got in the groove of things we all came together and did what we needed to do to win."

Other players of note are senior captain Todd Watson, junior Dave Ferguson and senior Chris Dalton.

The team will be looking to pass the .500 mark by mid April, when they face schools like Western Connecticut State, Fitchburg State, and Westfield State.

Olympics, WNEC Style

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

On March 30, the first annual Western New England College Olympics were in full swing. The Opening Ceremonies were led by Cyndi Costanzo, who introduced the eight teams, consisting of a total of 70 players.

The teams each had their own unique names, as follows: The Stackum All-Stars, The Splunkers, Wahoos, Natural Born Killers, Freshmen Phenoms, Creatures of Habit, Goodfellas & Tanya, and Spooking & the Gang.

The sporting events over the four-day, round robin and double elimination tournaments were volleyball, 4-on-4 basketball, floor hockey, relay competitions, and water games.

Dean Zern proceeded Cyndi by giving more instructions about the events and the duration of time they were to be played.

Zern amused the Olympic crowd and the athletes by having them participate in "Simon seez," or more appropriately, "Zern seez," prior to the games.

For each Olympic event, points were compiled and medals were determined by the most overall points.

A total of 3 points were awarded to the winner of the gold medal, 2 points for winning the silver, and 1 point for the bronze medal winner.

The Stakum All-Stars won the gold medal with a total of eight points.

The Splunkers won the silver with 6 points and the Wahoos won the bronze with an accumulation of 5 points.

The four days of events will most likely be played at Western New England College again next year because, as Costanzo noted, "The Olympic games were very popular among the students."

Olympic Photos/ Dan Binder

Tennis Results Against Nichols College

Singles Results

Bryan Hanson loses match 6-4, 6-4

Paul Doyon wins match 6-2, 6-3.

Jim McDonough loses 6-3, 6-3.

Aaron Keller wins match 6-3, 4-6, 6-2

Jon Goodwin triumphs 6-4, 6-4.

Shaun Kean wins match 6-1, 4-6, 6-2.

Doubles Results:

Aaron Keller, Jim McDonough lose match 8-3.

Paul Doyon, Bryan Hanson defeat Nichols 8-0.

Shaun Kean, Jeff Hungarter triumph 8-4.

Photo/ David Weinberg

SPORTS, from page 1

The goal of these changes was to improve the college's dwindling athletic program.

After elaborating on the details of the new council, Brissette talked about other changes relevant to WNEC athletes. She told students she felt athletes should not have to have their lives held in danger by the death-trap WNEC vans which bring them to away games.

An eruption of laughter filled the hall as they began to compare near-death experiences with the vans.

Brissette's final comment on this issue was that new vans would be purchased and that the college now had arrangements with "rent-a-van" corporations in case of emergencies.

Larger sports teams, she said, would be able to acquire buses.

Brissette also said that the council would work on the future of uniforms for the teams. Many students have complained that certain teams do not the right colored uniforms.

As the meeting ended, Brissette encouraged all students to "hang tough" and do their best as they waited for the improvements of the future. She also encouraged everyone to attend the open forums for the new athletic director candidates and to ask them questions.

She did not, however, mention Coach Geldart. Students were left to ponder the rumors they had heard.

After the meeting ended, some students gathered on the floor to discuss the issues of new equipment, uniforms, and coaches. They also wondered which teams would be added, and which teams would be eliminated.

One suggestion was that all outdoor sporting events (except baseball and softball) be played on the football field so there could possibly be greater attendance at WNEC's home games, thus encouraging more school spirit and participation.

Another idea was that sports played on the back fields should have bleachers for the fans to sit in

Many were enthusiastic about the idea of an awards banquet held to honor the hard work and accomplishments of the athletes. Awards would be given out to promote pride and school spirit.

"I believe there should be more attention to women's sports — as in money to our program," said Kate Harrington. "I agree with the idea that all sports games should be played out on the football field. Also I think that the field hockey team needs uniforms that represent the school."

Candice Daly echoed the sentiments of many when she said, "There should be more attention to sports in general, because... the athletes would be proud to win for their school."

Vollyball Team Struggles in Tournament

by Ryen O'Connor
Staff Writer

The Volleyball season has come to an end, but the Golden Bears left on a high note. The team finished the regular season with an impressive 8-7 record. The team was considered a bubble team waiting to see if they made the North East Collegiate Volleyball Tournament held in Hoboken, New Jersey.

It was about a week after the regular season ended when Coach Aufiero received a phone call from the league director saying that the Golden Bears had made the tournament as an 11th seed.

Sophomore captain Mike Pushee commented, "The team was a little bit surprised that we made the tournament, although we did play tough against the better teams."

The tournament was held at Stevens Institute Of Technology, where eleven other schools — mostly from New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts — participated. In the first round of play, the Golden Bears played the Merchant Marine Academy.

This was the first time in school history that the men's volleyball team made the playoffs. For many of the players on the team it was their first in any playoffs of volleyball.

It was apparent that the Golden Bears were nervous in the first game of the playoffs, where they lost 15-11. Once the team got their feet wet in the first game of the tournament, however, the players seemed to be a bit looser, although the outcome was the same. In the second game they lost 15-7, and in the third game they lost 15-9.

Sophomore Rob Pulsifer said, "Overall we played well, but not up to our full potential."

Although the team lost in the first round of play, Coach Aufiero was very proud of the accomplishments made. This year's squad is extremely talented, and with the loss of only two players next season, WNEC should make the tournament again next season.

The two players graduating are Ray Walker and Drew Grant. Don't be surprised to see the Golden Bears upset a lot of good teams next season, because this year's squad did a lot of miraculous things against strong teams.

Western New England Dances Up a Storm

New Dance Group Adds Flare to Sports Events

by Jennifer O'Brien
Layout Editor

You may have seen them at the half-time entertainment during the football and basketball games.

Most recently, they performed during CAB's Spring Week, taking the audience on a tour of music and dance from the 50's through the 90's.

The Western New England College Dance Team has gained recognition on campus this year as an organization that is dedicated to supporting the sports teams, even through the worst scheduling or weather conditions.

The entire look of the team has changed due to the hard work of 12 members and to their new coach Stephanie Reid.

With the hopes of gathering new talent for the 1998-99 season, an open practice will be held on April 23rd to give students an idea of what to look forward to next year, should they decide to try out.

Practice will be held at the Alumni Healthful Living Center. If you have any questions regarding the open practice, contact Laura Lebiedz at 796-4484. Notification about time and further details will follow.

In order to raise funds for the upcoming year, they will be holding the Second Annual Dance Team Car Wash on Saturday, April 25.

Treat your car by getting rid of all that winter grim for only $3. They will be located in the Emerson parking lot from 11a.m. to 3p.m.

The Dance Team will be participating in a summer dance work shop to help bring new ideas for next year's season. They look forward to seeing everyone next year.

A Rumble in the Bronx

Dispute after Collapse at House that Ruth Built

by Devid Weinberg
Sports Editor

On April 13, 1998, a piece of Yankees history was destroyed, so to speak.

At approximately 3 p.m. a 500-pound steal beam located beneath the upper deck of Yankee Stadium dislodged and crushed an unoccupied seat in the stands.

Due to the unfortunate circumstances, the Bronx Bombers had to postpone two of their three home games against the Anaheim Angels.

The Yankees will play the third game (or in this case the first game) of the series at the rival New York Mets Shea Stadium.

Shea Stadium was the Yankees domain in 1974 and 1975 when the old Yankee Stadium underwent reconstructive surgery that cost a mere $100 million.

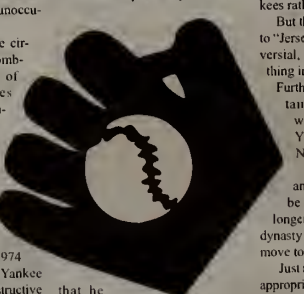
Yankee stadium, otherwise known as the "House That Ruth Built," is three quarters of a century old and the future of the stadium is now in limbo.

This incident may be a moral victory for Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, who has ideas of revamping Yankee stadium.

A more controversial idea of Steinbrenner's is to move the Yankees out of the Bronx and into New Jersey.

The owner has toyed with this idea for sometime now, indicating he wants a stadium in a new location with luxury box seats, better parking for the fans, and most importantly less crime.

After the falling of the steal beam at the Stadium, New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman emphatically indicated that he would welcome the Yankees to his stadium.



According to media sources, Mayor Giuliani was rather distraught that Whitman would make such a statement after the seriousness of the incident.

Two factors may slightly improve the Yankees chances of *not* remaining in the Bronx.

First of all, with the collapsing of a portion of the 75-year-old stadium, repairs or even a new stadium could possibly be inevitable.

Furthermore, the team's lease on the Stadium expires in the year 2002, and George Steinbrenner might decide it is time for the Yankees to leave the Big Apple.

From a personal standpoint, being a Yankee fan from the Garden State (New Jersey), I would love to see the Yankees move to my state — I could get used to calling them the *New Jersey* Yankees rather easily

But the changing from "York" to "Jersey" would be very controversial, proving there is "something in a name."

Furthermore, it is virtually certain that a World War III would ensue if the New York Yanks became the New Jersey Yanks.

Yankee fans who are anti-New Jersey and would be foolish enough to no longer be a fan of the greatest dynasty in sports if the Yanks do move to the Garden State.

Just remember this classic and appropriate phrase regarding baseball and its fans: "*If you build it they will come*!"

A survey was conducted among 50 Western New England College students regarding if the Yankees should 1) Stay in the Bronx 2) Relocate to New Jersey or 3) Do whatever it doesn't matter.

Eighty-five percent want the Yankees to remain in the Bronx

Ten percent would like to see the Yankees move to New Jersey

Five percent do not care what happens or where the Yankess end up either way.

Golden Bear Classifieds

Announcements

4/19, CAB Boston Trip.

4/20, CAB Movie — Pulp Fiction.

4/21, Blessid Union of Souls. AHLC.

4/20 - 24, Earth Awarness Week.

4/23, Blood Drive.

4/23, PA Training Ends.

4/24, Friday's. AHLC. Sponsored by the Freshman Council.

4/25, Sophomore Class Picnic to Quabin Reservoir.

4/25, Senior Formal. Chez Joseph.

4/26, Honors & Co-Curricular Awards.

4/28, Open Mic Poetry Reading. People's Place. 8:30pm. Food & Drink. Sponsored by The Review.

4/30, Distribution of The Cupola, The Review, The Westerner. Outside near gazebo. Live entertainment.

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Cite Springs Up over Summer Semester

Kruger Talks about New Residential Living and Learning Center

by Wayne Barr
Editor

David Kruger, Vice President of Financial Affairs, hopes this will be a watertight facility by winter

Over the summer break, construction began on a new residence building. The construction, located behind Windam Hall, is one of the most noticable changes an campus, and according to Vice President of Financial Affairs David Kruger, it reflects a number of changes in the student body.

Kruger admitted that there is an increase in the total number of students attending Western New England College, but the increase is not as dramatic as the construction of a new residence hall might suggest.

"We're looking at maybe 70 more students," Kruger said.

The new building, now called the Residential Living and Learning Center, will hopefully accomodate other changes on campus. Enrollment may be slightly up, but the percentage of commuter students is down, which means more and more students are choosing to live on campus, Kruger said.

"We don't provide any housing for law students," he added. "We're hoping that this will open some space for law students [to live at] Gateway."

As its name suggests, the new building will not be a residence hall only. Part multi-media center, it will be open not only to students living in it, but the entire campus.

Of the three wings that comprise the building, the middle section, what Kruger called the "center core," will include facilities to

See **BUILDING**, page 2

Caprio, Theulen Annouce Changes to Athletic Department

by Samatha Lussier
Staff Writer

On September 2, 1998 there was a meeting of all student athletes to discuss changes made to the athletic program over the summer.

First and foremost among these changes was the hiring of a new Athletic Director, Dr. Mike Theulen.

Prior to working at WNEC, Dr. Theulen was a teacher and coach at Springfield College.

Now, as Athletic Director at Western New England College, Dr. Theulen plans to institute many improvements to advance athletics at this school.

The most important change made to the athletic program is WNEC's admittance into the Great Northeast Athletic Conference. The Great Northeast Athletic Conference was chosen because it can accommodate all WNEC teams.

This is important because women's teams were previously left out of conference play.

Another improvement made to the program was the hiring of new athletic staff.

WNEC now has an assistant athletic director position, which is this year occupied by Joseph Sassi.

Also, three new coaches have been hired. Ben Bump is the Women's Swimming Coach, Heather Somers is the Women's Lacrosse Coach, and Doug Pearson is the Men's Basketball Coach.

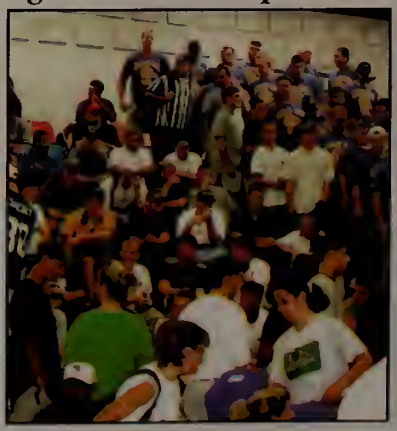
Finally, Kim O'Leary is the new Athletic Trainer.

Theulen hopes to hire more athletic trainers so every team will have a trainer on site during practice.

Many other changes were also announced.

For example, a new softball field has already been built behind the Alumni Heathful Living

See **CHANGES**, page 11



Students assemble in Sleith 100 to hear about the latest changes to the Athletic Program

NEWS

September, 1998

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BUILDING, from page 1

be used by all students.

On the tiered first floor of the center core will be two media rooms, including desktops and projectors. These will enable "a variety of activities," possibly including faculty lectures, classes, "Saturday night movies and things like that," Kruger said.

The second floor of the core, the entry level, will be distinguished by a large open area and picture window, and will include the coordinator's office. There will also be a TV room and rec room on this level, Kruger said.

A computer laboratory, multipurpose room, and the manager's apartment will be on the third floor.

Although these areas will be accessible to everyone, residential students assigned to the Living and Learning Center will enjoy luxeries missing in other residential buildings.

Each residential wing is identical, and each bedroom will contain two students. Every three bedromms will share a central living room and two private bathrooms.

There will be four units on each floor, plus rooms for the Residential Advisors.

Altogether, the Residential Living and Learning Center will be home to 150 students and 6 Residential Advisors.

Additonally, each wing will include a laundry facility and study area. Kruger said there would be big windows and a glass wall so a lot of natural light can come into the community area in the center of each wing.

Construction on the site is expected to be completed by September of 1999 — next year — so that members of the sophomore class can move in from Plymouth.

"It provides a good transition from quads to suites to apartments," Kruger said.

Getting the building completed in time to move students in next year is no small task. "If you miss September of 1999 you might as well wait until September of 2000 ... it would be too hectic to move students in mid-semester," he said.

The scrambling to complete a two-year project in 14 months created a rush to get permits in time to begin construction. "We were pushing in that process ... there are approvals you have to go through," he said, citing a variety of building, environmental, and historical permits that were needed.

If things go according to plan, there may be a watertight facility by wintertime. This way, Kruger said, the college can avoid the expense of constructing an envelope over the site for the wet, snowy months before spring.

The budget for the complete project is seven million dollars, and was financed using a tax-exempt bond issue. It will be paid back over a 30-year period.

Meanwhile, until the fall semester of 1999, some students are living in Rivers Memorial Building. Some of the furniture there is actually furniture for the new residence hall.

That building, Kruger said, may become a new student center. "There is a need for more student organization space ... the exact plan hasn't been worked out yet but will be by next year."

Kruger is "hoping to find a donor" for The Residential Living and Learning Center, and "put a name on it."

A drawing of the Residential Living and Learning Center

New Provost/Vice President Assumes Responsiblities

News Services

Western New England College President Anthony S. Caprio has announced the appointment of Dr. Jerry A. Hirsch of Livingston, NJ, as the new provost/vice president of academic affairs.

Hirsch replaces Dr. Rex Stevens, who left last semester for a position Point Park College in Pittsburgh, Penn.

Hirsch was a professor of chemistry at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ. He assumed his duties at Western New England College on July 1, 1998.

Hirsch is a native of Louisville, KY, and he received his B.A. from Vanderbilt University and his Ph.D. from Stanford University. A member of the Seton Hall faculty since 1967, Hirsch served as the chair of the Department of Chemistry.

As a chemistry professor, he authored a textbook in organic chemistry and wrote more than 30 articles.

Hirsch was appointed as Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Seton Hall in 1986 and served until 1996.

He was responsible for administrating programs serving over 5,000 students.

An advocate for technological advances, Hirsch led the way at Seton hall for the creation of computer classrooms and pushed for a campus-wide fiber optic network.

"Dr. Hirsch is clearly a person of intelligence and competence, dedicated to academic excellence and institutional integrity," said Caprio. "I am pleased that he has joined the College and will be taking the leading role in providing academic excellence for all of our students."

Opportunities at Upcoming Fair

News Services

People considering furthering their educations will have the chance to meet with representatives of over 200 colleges, universities, and technical institutes at the New England Association of Admission Counselors College Fair to be conducted at the Alumni Healthful Living Center of Western New England College from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 23.

The fair is open to the public and free of charge.

There will be a panel discussion at 6:15 p.m. at the Alumni Healthful Living Center on financial aid issues prior to the opening of the fair.

WNEC, Dean College Initiate New Academic Program

News Services

Western New England College entered into a collaboration with Dean College of Franklin, MA, to create a baccalaureate degree program between the two institutions.

President Anthony S. Caprio of WNEC and President Paula M. Rooney of Dean College signed the agreement Wednesday morning at Dean College.

The new program will enable qualified Dean College students, upon receipt of their Associate Degree, to enroll in a full-time WNEC baccalaureate program and continue their third and fourth year on the Dean College campus.

Criminal justice and liberal studies majors will be offered. All courses will be taught by WNEC faculty. The target for the first graduates of the program is the class of 2001.

"This collaborative effort between Western New England College and Dean College demonstrates the extent to which two institutions can develop an alliance which is mutually advantageous, while serving students seeking to fulfill their education objectives," said Dr. Caprio. "Western New England College is defined in part by the strategic partnerships and allegiances forged with the external community: business, educational institutions, government, and the civic community."

Dean College, founded in 1865, is a leading two-year private liberal arts college serving 700 full-time students and 1,000 part-time continuing education students. With more than 14,500 alumni, the primary focus of the college is on educating students for transfer to baccalaureate institutions.

"Both Dean College and Western New England College have truly taken a leadership role by offering students the best in two-year and four-year degree program on one campus," remarked Dr. Rooney.

WNEC Community,

Once again the year has started off and you all are busy with classes and clubs. I just want to take a minute and introduce myself to those of you who are new to Western New England College. My name is Ryan Courtemanche and I am the Grievance Committee Chairperson for Student Senate. The Grievance Committee handles things that you think should either be changed or improved about WNEC. That is why I am here, to help you get your voice heard.

NEW FOR THIS YEAR there is a suggestion/grievance box hanging on the corner by the INFORMATION DESK. Feel free to fill out a form with your suggestions and drop it in the box. My committee and I will discuss the suggestion with the appropriate person(s) and get back to you on what will be done. This is how you get your voice heard. Take a part in what happens on campus. Office hours will be posted on the outside of the Student Senate Office door, by the Print Shop in the Campus Center as soon as they are finalized.

I wish you all success in the coming year and continued success for all returning students!

Cheers,
Ryan Courtemanche
Grievance Committee Chairperson

Messages From Student Senate

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

This year, Western New England College and the Student Senate are dedicated to taking a more active role in the community.

We first plan to accomplish this goal by taking part in the United Way campaign that will be held from September 10 - October 9. The United Way helps everyone, regardless of age, income, or where one lives.

United Way services are available for all to receive and to support.

One out of every three Pioneer Valley residents receives some form of assistance from a United Way funded program, which means someone you know will be helped- that someone might even be you.

The United Way of the Pioneer Valley's goal for the 1998 Campaign is to raise 6 million dollars, which is a large but not impossible goal to reach.

The Student Senate was a contributor to the 1997 United Way campaign through the "Balls for a Buck" fundraising even which will be held again this year from September 21-26 in the mall area of the Campus Center.

This even is really simple: you pay a dollar, receive a football cutout with your name on it, which is then placed on the walls of the Campus Center for all to see.

The only way this event can be a success is if you tell all of your friends to buy a football for an extremely worthy cause!

In addition to the "Balls for a Buck" event, we are also hosting the "Books are Fun Book Fair" which will be held on October 7th and 8th in the mall area of the Campus Center.

This fair provides the world's finest books at up to 70% off the retail prices and not only will you be buying quality books at a low price, but 10% of the proceeds will go directly to the United Way!

The book fair includes classics as well as books currently on the New York Times Best Seller List.

Please show your support, and help us in achieving our goal!

Sincerely,

Sean Boucher
President, Student Senate

Dear Students,

Welcome back to an exciting and rapidly changing Western New England College!

Our school has seen many changes over the past summer such as the addition of the Rivers Memorial Building Residence Hall, the technological advances in the residence areas as well as Churchill Hall, and the construction of the new Residential Living/Learning Center located behind Windham Hall.

Last week, President Dr. Anthony Caprio announced that the men's and women's varsity athletic teams will become members of the Great Northeast Conference starting in the 1999-2000 academic year.

This new conference will give Western New England College athletics more competition and will help our program establish and identify itself through the Northeast.

All of these changes are significant to ensure continued success at Western New England College.

The Student Senate has played an integral role in creating and funding many of the improvements made over the summer and will continue to do so in the future.

We have partially funded the renovation of the People's Place in an effort to make the room more appealing and useful to students. Construction is very close to completion and we plan to have a "Rename the People's Place" contest in the near future, so get some ideas flowing!

Along with the renovation of the room formerly known as the People's Place, the Student Senate decided to change and more the Student Organization Room into the Game Room as a "cyber café" concept.

The Cyber Café will contain six personal computers, five of which will contain internet capabilities, three printers, as well as a copy machine. The room will serve two purposes: First, it will work as an internet browsing room for any student who wants to check e-mail, or a web site in between classes.

These five computers linked to the internet will have timers, so the room will remain a "browsing room" and will not be turned into another Churchill Hall.

Secondly, one computer will be left strictly for clubs and organizations to use for promotional purposes only.

Student Senate plans on coordinating a coffee and refreshment stand with Student Activities to continue with the "internet café" concept.

The café should be open by the end of September.

If you are interested in becoming a part of the Student Senate, there are positions available that will be filled at our Fall Election on September 24.

Petitions will be available in Student Activities and are due on September 15.

The Student Senate is not just a bunch of people who meet every Tuesday at 12:45. We are the people who represent you. We are the official liaison between you, the student, and the college as a whole. We are here to remedy your problems concerning the campus. We allocate funds to the clubs and organizations. We sponsor many sub committees such as the Campus Activities Board. We are here for you. We are many but we are one, sharing the common goal of providing secure leadership for the Student Association.

Sincerely,

Sean Boucher
President, Student Senate

Free PR News, Job and Other Info on New Internet Site

NEW YORK, Sept. 5 - Communications, public relations and journalism majors can obtain valuable free career information via a new Internet site - www.odwyerpr.com.

The site, updated daily by the O'Dwyer Co., carries stories from the 30-year-old weekly O'Dwyer PR newsletter, job listings from its employment newsletter, and how-to and PR firm profile articles from its monthly magazine.

Students can obtain the names of the biggest names of the biggest PR firms in 21 cities and regions throughout the U.S. as well as the names of PR firms that specialize in such categories as high-tech, healthcare, financial, travel and sports PR. There are hyper-links to other PR sites.

"This is invaluable career information," said Publisher Jack O'Dwyer. Students with an interest in high-tech or healthcare, the two fastest-growing areas, can target such PR firms in cities where they live.

"They can also get up to speed on the major issues facing the PR and communications fields and the PR specialties. This will make it easier for them to shift from the academic to the working world" added O'Dwyer.

The nine O'Dwyer products include directories of PR firms, corporate PR departments and a who's who of the field. All O'Dwyer products are sold at half price to students or professors. The O'Dwyer newsletter and monthly magazine have been on NEXIS in full text since January, 1989, the only PR publications carried by NEXIS.

New Director of Alumni Affairs Appointed

News Services

Kara Kapinos of Hadley, MA, has recently been appointed as the director of alumni relations at Western New England College. Kapinos had served as the assistant director of alumni affairs at the College from 1989 to 1994. She received both her undergraduate and graduate business degrees from WNEC.

"We're fortunate to be welcoming back not only a skilled professional, but someone who clearly has both a love and an enthusiasm for the College, two qualities which will make Kara an outstanding liaison for the alumni," said Jane Albert, vice president for advancement and marketing.

Kapinos had served most recently at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst as director of external relations for the Isenberg School of Management.

"I'm looking forward to taking the Alumni Association in a direction that matches the growth of the College." Kapinos said. "It's a great experience for me to come back home."

Turtles Surprise Gateway Students

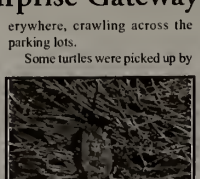
by Netelle Piserciik
Staff Writer

On a Monday afternoon, September 7, Gateway appeared to become a set for a future Alfred Hitchcock movie as little baby turtles made their journey across the crowded Gateway Parking Lots.

It was a soggy, rainy day as the small commotion was building outside some of the Gateway apartments. Students began emerging from their apartments to see what was going on.

Baby snapping turtles were everywhere, crawling across the parking lots.

Some turtles were picked up by



A rescued turtle on Labor Day

students and brought to the side grass and safe areas.

Other students decided they would bring the turtles back to their apartments as pets, an odd choice considering snapping turtles bite.

All in all it appeared too much for the Gateway residents to handle.

Only mother nature can tell where the turtles emerged from that day: the dumpsters, sewers, or the soggy wet ground. They appeared to be heading to Gateway pond.

Now only time can tell what will happen to these reptiles. One hopes for the best.

Editorials & Opinions

September, 1998

Gateway Needs More Parking Spots

Parking ... it's one of those joyful pleasures in life when you drive an automobile. Or it can be a dangerous one if you can't park or don't even know how to park, depending on the driver.

But the matter of the story is not whether you can park, but that there appears to be a slight parking problem here in Gateway Village.

Students find themselves glued to their windows, hoping that just one person will pull out of a parking spot and drive away, just so they can run to their cars on Boston Road and pull into a somewhat closer parking spot.

Others park their cares on their lawns, illegally. Soon they may be parking in the pool or on top of other cars.

Still others send their roommates and friends out to barricade a spot, or save a spot, for a lucky friend who grins an evil smile of relief as he/she pulls into the horded, closer legal spot.

Yellow tickets are everywhere, and students are outraged.

"Why isn't there more parking!" they demand. "What is the problem?"

Some ask if there will be a shuttle bus available to them when they have to end up parking in the woods behind the varsity playing fields (where is that?).

Other students even wonder if they should drive anywhere, for when they turn thein engines on five other cars quickly zoom in, hoping they can retreave this soon-to-be-release parking spot.

So how can this problem be solved?

Public safety seems to be on the ball, giving out tickets left and right, but so far the parking dilemma hasn't showed any signs of improvement.

What should be done? What about turning the small field behind "the hieghts" apartments of Gateway into a parking lot?

As of now, this field is nothing but a dried-out lawn.

Another idea is to only allow seniors and juniors to park their cars at Gateway.

As a senior, I find it frustrating that I cannot park 50 feet near my apartment. This college seems to all of the sudden be so big on improving itself, yet it can't even provide enough parking for its Gateway residents.

Someone should go back to the drawing board.

Anonymous

Beyond Wrath and Rhetoric, a Human Being

A Story of Acceptance, Indifference, and Forgetting to Judge Someone

by Josh Shear

Josh, Inspissated

Let me tell you about Iris (not her real name).

I work in a bank. For an English major who writes not only for his classes and for the school newspaper, but because it's what he likes to do, one can see how I might go a little crazy working there.

When I saw my friend Corinne last November for the first time in a year, she questioned me in a conversation that went something like this:

Corinne: So what have you been up to?

Josh: Well, I'm going to school part time and working in a bank, among trying to live life and enjoy it every once in a while.

Corinne: YOU work in a bank? You work WHERE?

Come New Year's Day, I started to go a little crazy. That was about the time Iris joined our branch.

In a job that I could merely tolerate, I worked with people I got along with, but would never be friends with outside of work.

Some of them are even there on a career path.

I could never imagine being a banker for most of my life. I've never had a job longer than seasonally that I actually liked, and while I'd worked at some jobs with friends, I had never met anyone on the job that I'd meet after work for a drink or a concert.

Iris came in one morning, tall, blond, and a little weird.

Not weird in the sense that she'll be sitting on top of the ATM when I come in or that she talks to herself any more than "normal" people do, but just a little bit out of step for a banker.

She likes clunky shoes and drives a purple car and likes NECCO wafers. Finally! Someone I could relate to!

I dragged Iris to a concert in early February, and she enjoyed it a lot.

Once again, it was really strange to me to find someone at work to hang out with - and to think I found her at a bank!

Over the past 6 months, Iris and I have hung out a few times; we don't go out every weekend or anything, but we've been to another concert, a couple of parties, and even just gone to a bar to grab a drink.

I told her last month that I was really glad that she joined our branch, and that I had been ready to pretty much go nuts before she came.

She didn't really have anything to say, but I could tell she was a little happier with her job now that she knew she had made someone's life a little easier.

About the same time that I was thanking Iris, the *Springfield Union-News* ran several letters from anti- and pro-gay readers. On July 30, a letter from a minister was printed with the title, "Acceptance of gays, evil will bring fall of country."

As you can imagine, the letter managed to offend some people, and on August 4, two letters appeared, one written by a gay man who is accepted in his church's version of Christianity, and another in which the writer, Warren J. Blumenfeld of Northampton, closed by writing, "...we all have a responsibility, indeed an opportunity, to join together as allies to construct protective shelters from the corrosive effects of bigotry while working to clean up the homophobic environment in which we live...."

While I agree with Mr. Blumenfeld's viewpoint, I don't think I would have written it like a philosophy textbook.

After reading these letters to the editor, I remembered back to last semester, when *The Westerner's* Roving Reporter section asked students about their feelings about a gay support group possibly being established as a registered student organization on campus, as there wasn't one already.

Nobody who disliked the idea would allow a quote or picture to go in the paper, and nobody who allowed a quote or a picture in the paper seemed to have a real feeling on it — everyone was fine with it, but no one said, "hey, yeah, what a great idea!"

WNEC is the only college I have ever been to without some sort of formal gay group on campus. Maybe that's because there aren't enough gay people who would join it to bother forming one.

If that's the case, then perhaps it's a good thing — maybe the straight population of WNEC and the surrounding area is so accepting of gays that gay people on campus simply don't need a support group. Wonderful!

But if that's true, why isn't it more reflective of the world around us?

After eight years of knowing it herself, Iris came out to her parents this summer as a lesbian.

They said they've known for about six years and wanted to meet her girlfriend. Her parents did most of the talking; there was no searching for acceptance or forgiveness.

And there shouldn't have been.

Her parents have a daughter who does her job well, makes people happy, and is fun to be around, a daughter who doesn't need the wrath of a minister or the purging rhetoric of Mr. Blumenfeld.

They have a daughter who is as human as they are, as human as you or me, as Mr. Blumenfeld or the minister, a daughter who should only need the support everybody needs to get through life happy, because that is all she is really trying to do.

And what more could two loving parents really ask for in a daughter?

From the Editor: A Glance Behind Some of the Articles in this Issue

Most of the articles in this particular issue are about positive changes occurring on campus, changes made earnestly and with, it seems, the benefit of the student body much in mind.

Most notable are the new faces filling the positions of Vice President of Academic Affairs, Director of Alumni Relations, and Athletic Director.

In a way, these stories — in whatever detail they now appear — have been presupposed, in each case but one, by articles from last semester's *Westerner*. It is interesting that back then, these changes were uncertain, potentially negative, hushed, and difficult to write as news.

For example, before Dr. Mike Theulen assumed his responsibilities as the new Athletic Director, Coach Eric Geldart quietly resigned, making the position available.

Administrators issued a vague statement which merely confirmed that Geldart had "stepped down" after 32 years as Athletic Director.

Dr. Judith Brissette, Vice President of Administration and Planning, did not mention the issue at a meeting of student athletes last April except to say that the search had begun for a new Athletic Director. Greg Michael, Director of Career and Human Resources, resisted questions.

What happened? There was a curious aspect to the affair, a reluctance to share information, ambivalence in those who spoke to *The Westerner* at all.

Dr. Rex Stevens, former Vice President of Academic Affairs, left under less mysterious circumstances: he simply said he had accomplished what he came here to do, and with his sly grin and squinty eyes, he quoted Samuel Johnson: "The general remedy of uneasiness is a change of pace."

The changes on campus — the new athletic initiatives, residential hall, and other modifications of people and place — seem prismatically beneficial, and the college is now eager to discuss them, see them in print.

There is no need to insinuate anything sinister about any of this, but it is intriguing that such positive changes occur amid much "uneasiness." This is enough to justify reasonable caution.

In any event, what is most exciting about writing for a college newspaper is the tense moment in an interview when a coach, administrator, professor or student leans forward and says, "I'll tell you something — *off* the record." The subsequent revelation may amount to much or little, but it cannot be printed.

As a reporter, however, there is a thrill to possessing information, printable or not.

I encourage anyone interested in writing for *The Westerner* to call the Student Publication Office at x1580, or e-mail us at westedit@hotmail.com.

Wayne Barr

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I'd Rather be in Philadelphia

The Lies and Traps of Road Construction Near Campus

They're still there. They've changed lanes a few times, but the damned things are still there.

I am referring, of course, to the Jersey barriers (still called "concrete walls" by some) on Interstate 91, heading north and south through Springfield.

And they're in Holyoke now, too.

What are we to do?

Last semester, Springfield Mayor Michael J. Albano came to WNEC and said that the construction would be finished by October.

While I doubt that will be the case, it's the most realistic goal we've heard so far.

The *Springfield Union-News* mentioned several dates over the summer which were to be deadlines for the removal of the barriers, two of which were July 1 and August 1.

Of what year?

I was very happy one night driving home from Northampton when I found that while the walls were still present, there were actually three continuous lanes of traffic on the southbound side of the highway.

They went back down to two for a little while, and then back up to three, but (say it with me) they're still there.

At the time of this writing, the northbound lanes aren't really worth mentioning, but to keep the spirit of whining about construction projects alive, I will ask: why does it take me half an hour to get from my exit (exit 4) to exit 8 (route 291)?

It might be a mile or even a mile and a half in length, but that stretch seems to take me absolutely forever to drive!

Unless you already live in the Springfield area or were taking the Mass Pike in, you've probably driven through this construction already, and if you were lucky enough to be coming from the North, you hit the construction in Holyoke between exits 16 and 15 (and if you're headed north it's there, too, so don't think you're clever going there).

Anyway, how'd you like it?

Please do understand that you are trapped here now. There isn't much road construction going on in the city (though please avoid the intersection of Boston Rd. and Breckwood Blvd./Bay St.) but you can't leave without running into it somewhere.

Now that the Memorial Bridge is finally done (a mere, what, 10 years late?), those of us who thought the other projects in the city would move along a little more quickly cringe as we plug along with the air conditioner blasting and the radio blaring to try to drown out the misery caused by the snail's pace being kept by workers whose spokespeople claim are working 24 hours to get the project finished.

And now we get word that construction will soon begin on the South End Bridge? I can't wait. (That's a joke, people, a joke!)

I don't think there really is a reasonable solution to the construction short of finishing it.

But tell us honestly. When's it going to be done? Don't get our hopes up one month at a time, only to say, "we're not done yet, but we're getting there. It shan't be much longer now."

We really dislike the construction and the delays, but we really hate when you toy with us.

Josh Shear

PEER EDUCATIONAL NETWORK (PEN)

Do you want to stir up **QUESTIONS** about alcohol and drug use at Western New England College?

Do you think we could create a healthier climate for students to make informed **CHOICES** about alcohol and drug use?

Do you like to **MAKE A SCENE** occasionally? Or spread **GOOD NEWS**?

PEN is looking for **DIVERSE** group of fun-loving students to join a **PEER EDUCATION NETWORK** to address alcohol and drug issues on campus.

We'll use **exciting methods** to get people thinking and talking about drinking and drug use.
We want representation from as many groups as possible. First year students through seniors; users, non-users, and students in recovery; outgoing and shy; students of color; men and women, and those with various interests and social choices.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS EXCITING NEW GROUP, COME TO AN INTRODUCTORY MEETING:

SEPT 15, 6 - 7:30, CAMPUS CENTER #4

PIZZA PROVIDED!!!

Please call Lore (pronounced Lori) to confirm (so I order enough food).

782-1360

Bushwacking, Backpacking, and Mountaineering in Alaska

An Outdoor Experience with NOLS in the Wilderness Provides Adventure, Perspective

by Ryan Courtemenche
Contributing Writer

Have you even been to a place where the only sound you can hear is the snow crunching under your boots, your breath escaping your mouth only to condense immediately, and the wind ripping at your jacket?

Have you ever been to a place where you drive 50 miles on a road and not to pass one house or one other car?

The author on the edge of a massive cliff. Views of the Alaskan Range on a breathtaking and dangerous expedition.

Have you ever been to a place where you and 12 others are the only human being for 30 square miles?

This summer I took a trip to Alaska, to explore, to learn, and to visit a land where there are still areas that haven't been seen by a human being. I traveled to Alaska to take a course with the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) in mountaineering and the experience that I had was unbelievable.

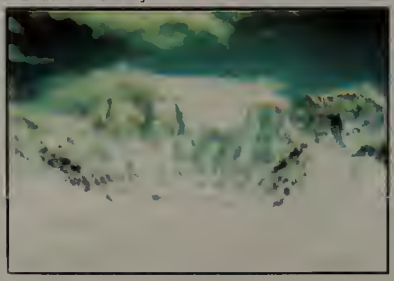
Even if I used all the adjectives I know to try and describe my experience, I still could not even begin to tell you about it. I spent 28 days bushwhacking, backpacking and mountaineering on a glacier.

We learned everything there is to know about mountaineering, including how to rescue a person if they fall in a crevasse, how to plan trips into the mountains, and basically how to survive in an environment where mother nature doesn't care whether you live or die.

Mountaineering is a constant battle to survive, a way of life in and of itself. You become one with your goal, and nothing else matters. You can draw yourself out of the real world and focus on the task at hand — no phones ringing, no people to pester you about work.

Writer David Roberts eloquently put some of the feelings I had when he wrote:

"And it hurts me now how indifferent the mountains are, and therefore, how valuable: for on them we cannot afford to be relativistic. The terms of our combat are theirs, and if we discover on them nothing we can take back to show others, still we discover the utter alienness of the not-self, of the seemingly ordinary world all around us."



The base of this massive rock face is at about 3500' and the top is about 11,500'. Puts things in perspective.

As I was leaving Alaska, another passage of his occurred to me, and summed up some of the feelings that I was having as I left Alaska:

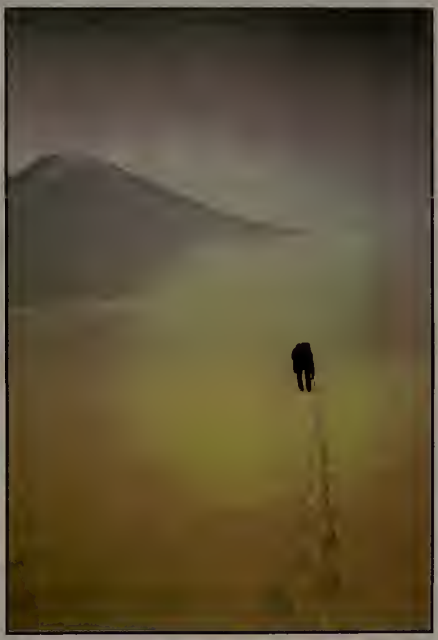
"Everything seems good, but the climb is over, and already I anticipate the long ordinary months stretching into our futures. The time to be lived through before life can become special and single-minded again."

It was an experience that opened my mind to new leadership styles. It taught me that leading is about giving other people skills they need to help do what you are doing. Leading is an ongoing process that needs constant care and attention. A bad leader in the outdoors can not only cause ill tempers, but can sometimes cost people their lives.

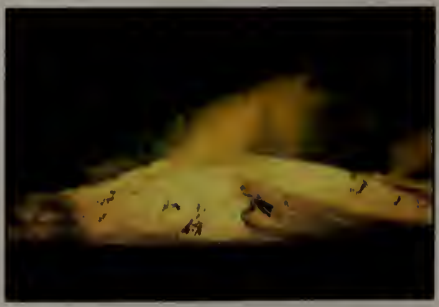
My experience in the mountains helped me put my life into perspective and to appreciate all that I have and all that is given to me.

I take nothing for granted anymore.

After spending a month carrying around everything that I needed to survive on my back, I now view life in a different light. It brought me back to what pioneers of the country must have felt, to a time when all you tried to do in life was learn to survive.



Climbers headed for the summit of another peak. Height, 8400'.



Sunrise on an unnamed peak. Height, 8310'.

It also taught me that there is real meaning in living life for you and no one else, but also that you must have an open mind to your surroundings, and not judge people on their weaknesses.

When you are in the mountains, you cannot afford to take anything for granted.

Alaska is an amazing place, definitely a place that everyone should visit before they die.

My experience with NOLS was one that changed my life forever. My instructors taught me so much about, not just mountaineering, but about life.

I will never be able to repay them for their caring and tremendous teaching ability.

If you ever have aspirations to do anything in the outdoors, check NOLS out.

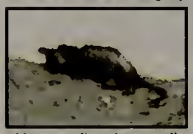
You will be glad that you did!

Looking for Nature: Observations on Cranberry Lake

by Wayna Barr
Editor

Camping may not be so singular an activity that it belongs in the travel section of a newspaper. Modern campsites are often composed of homogeneous clusters of tree stumps and stonewalled campfires, with portable toilets tucked modestly out of sight — hardly the thing to attract most adventurous readers.

However, before this summer I had never actually been camping, and according to enthusiastic veterans (professors on campus, longtime friends, fellow students) the experience was akin to a conversion: baptism by nature. Exhausted from final exams I wanted to get away from modern living, from the internet, and be able to look out and without seeing any



Minutes earlier, a hungry gull had been dismembering this rodent breakfast

trace of human existence.

So, a would-be convert, I set out to experience the real thing. I borrowed a sleeping bag and backpack from Professor Angus, a fishing rod (don't ever call it a "pole," or those who know better will glare at you) from a childhood friend, and with some miscellaneous supplies acquired at my own expense (from the local Wal-Mart, I'm ashamed to say), some friends and I spent a three-day weekend on a rocky, bulbous island on Cranberry Lake, in the Adirondacks.

Cranberry Lake, I was later told, is man-made, the result of diverting some mountain river to a designated valley. If true, this would explain the proliferation of tree roots and split trunks gaping beneath shallower water, tangled and pale like ossified corpses.

We set out on a sunny, pristine morning. I chose a canoe over an offered motor boat — a putt-putt brought by a member of the group. I wanted an authentic, brawny experience, to feel the ache of unknown muscles, and most of all, to see as much related to nature and as little related to technology as possible.

Canoeing to Little Joe Island, where a previous expedition had established our camp, was initially easy enough. The repetition of plunging a paddle into the water and pulling it back, as straight and parallel to the canoe as possible, was almost hypnotic. Swirls of water, tiny whirlpools, came off each stroke. Still, I was a neophyte, and my arms and shoulders ached refreshingly when we got to Little Joe Island, just as I'd wanted them to.

In the days that followed were a handful of experiences that stand out. Fishing had been virtually synonymous with camping as we'd planned the trip, so I wasn't surprised to find myself impaling Canadian Nightcrawlers on barbed hooks — an awkward, surprisingly gutsy task. The worms were more effective than most lures, although most of the largemouth bass I caught were too small to keep.

A hook often found its way into an unblinking fish eye, and to remove it I had to first grab the fish's lower jaw between thumb and forefinger. It would instantly stop thrashing, open its mouth unbelievably wide, and gape at me with

Sunrise on Cranberry Lake

what seemed like humble supplication.

A merciful deity, I threw them all back.

Our meals weren't made from the daily catch, however. The campsite was cluttered with coolers and gas stoves, hotplates and barbecue grills, dishes and utensils of every variety. This was hardly "roughing it," even if we were hours from where we'd pushed off.

In fact, it became increasingly difficult to avoid the sorts of things I'd wanted to. I fell asleep on a broad, shoreline rock beneath the afternoon sun, closed my eyes, imagined I was a shipwrecked Odysseus. In the background, though, I heard the drone of speedboats, and then the slap of the waves it made against my rock. I was relaxed, displaced from the tedium of working all summer for tuition, but still very much aware of human strangers, potential intruders or rescuers, nearby.

At night some of us lay on the rocky banks and watched the stars come out. They were elusive, and before twilight darkens many can only be seen peripherally: when you look directly at them, they vanish. Satellites in low orbit drifted clearly across the sky, however: I could see them plainly, directly, against a backdrop of emerging constellations. It was another intrusion, a reminder of urban life as mosquitoes tentatively tried to land on my face, the only exposed part of me in the night air. The song of loons — a series of cries something between weeping and laughing — filled a silence punctuated only by our voices. The seven satellites we saw were eerie, out of place.

On the second day of our sojourn we canoed to another island and hiked to Slippery Rock Falls — an pristine stream running over a steep, smooth, slimy boulder that ends precariously in a jagged divot before depositing anyone bold enough to slide down it into a murky, cool pond. It was fun, adventurous, and the potential for injury attracted us. One of us hurt his back; I slipped and cut my hand, but other than that we survived. Less bold campers — more strangers — looked on but did not imitate.

In short, I had fun, but I discovered I had some zealous ideas about the effects of nature on the suburbanized soul of a college student.

I'd expected to have a literary experience, to make pseudo-Thorouvian observations, to saunter through the woods, to drink like the characters in "The Sun Also Rises" and fish with the same success — I'd expected, as my friend's wife put it, to "commune with nature."

It now seems to me a curious expression, as if nature itself is a tangible entity, a race of beings with whom one may stay a while before leaving with the imparted wisdom of a unique, otherworldly heritage. The pathways of communication between nature and man were too indirect for me, and in a three day weekend I couldn't hope to learn, on my own, anything Thorouvian or Whitmanian or even Hemingwayesque.

I learned more about nature, in fact, when I returned home. Intrigued by the brilliant, formless cluster of stars I had seen, I got a book of constellations and began learning the stories and legends of the night. I can find almost a dozen now and I know a few stars by name. Perhaps that is how intimacy with nature occurs in the modern world — from a book, after the experience itself.

Still, there was time, on the morning of my last day on Little Joe Island, for exploration and discovery. The sunset lit the clouds and the lake, and with muscles that ached beyond expectation I made a small, private excursion onto the Lake. But for a buoy warning me of possible danger, I was finally alone.

Slippery Rock Falls: The water was cold, the rock jagged, the air insect-ridden. Still, it was more fun that an amusement park water slide.

Arts & Entertainment

September, 1998

The September Scoop

by Jennifer O'Brien
Layout Editor

It's that time of year, when we've all seen the summer movies to death and the prospects of up-and-coming rentals consists of *Titanic* mania. It's time for some fresh blood in the cinemas and here are just a few coming in September that you might want to keep your eyes open for.

Opening in theaters today is *Rounders*, the new movie staring Matt Damon. Playing a law student, he must work the poker tables to save the life of his best friend (Edward Norton). A great cast that may just speak for itself includes: Martin Landau, John Turturro, John Malkovich, and Famke Janssen.

Renée Zellweger plays a Manhattan magazine writer who returns home to reconcile with her dying mother, played by Meryl Streep, in *One True Thing*. The movie also stars William Hurt as the father. Coming to theaters September 19.

Ben Stiller plays a TV sitcom writer with a heroin addiction in *Permanent Midnight*. A dramatic role for Stiller, he stars in the film with Elizabeth Hurley and Janeane Garofalo. Release date scheduled for September 16.

How long has it been since we've seen Edward Furlong? My guess is *Terminator 2*. He's back in a September 25 release called *Pecker*. Co-staring Christina Ricci and Martha Plimpton, the movie is a satire of the New York art world as it follows an amateur photographer on the road to success.

Jean-Claude Van Damme is back in *Knock Off*, with Hong Kong action star Tsui Hark to do some damage to an international terrorist group. It entered theaters on September 4.

Another familiar face on the big screen is Kevin Bacon, playing a mentally retarded man who is befriended by a lonely nine-year-old girl (Evan Rachel Wood). *Digging to China* comes out on the 11.

Rush Hour brings us another Jackie Chan flick on September 18, and this time he co-stars with comedian Chris Tucker. Chan plays a Hong Kong detective working with an L.A. cop (Tucker) to take down a group of kidnappers.

Faculty Author Publishes Second Book

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

What do horses, cement blocks, cotton candy, and strippers have in common? Today, maybe nothing, but once they where a part of something that caught a young boy's imagination. In fact, it caught the imagination of Western New England College's own Professor Charles Fish.

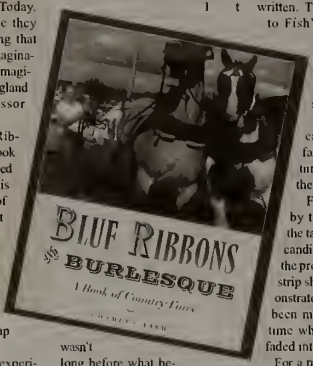
His new book, "Blue Ribbons and Burlesque: A Book of Country Fairs," published by Countryman Press this year, is a combination of pictures and essays about what gives country fairs their appeal.

Written in a personal manner, the book lets the reader see what it was like, at least one week out of the year, to grow up in small-town America.

The memories of his experiences at the fairs inspired Fish to return some 25 years later, as an adult, with camera in hand to capture what the essence of the fair.

After letting the negatives sit in his attic for another 30 years, "Blue Ribbons and Burlesque" was finally produced and published.

It is only through this foresight that the reader can experience the magic of small town fairs, which Fish talks about in his first chapter, duly titled "Magic."



It wasn't long before what began as a picture book started to have captions, and eventually evolved into the eloquent combination of words and pictures that was published.

This book, Fish's second major publication, gives the reader a glimpse into the past, not only through photographs, but also through the memories of a boy and the reflections of a man.

When I read "Blue Ribbons and Burlesque," I was impressed by the personal style in which it was written. There was an air of truth to Fish's realizations. As a reader, one feels involved; it's as if one is with him as he comes to his conclusions.

His pictures catch the essence of the fair while his words, in turn, catch the essence of the pictures.

From the power shown by the horses and oxen to the taste of cotton candy and candied apples, and finally to the provocative women of the strip shows, Fish's book demonstrates to the reader what has been missed growing up in a time when country fairs have faded into the mist of the past.

For a moment, "Blue Ribbons and Burlesque" brings the images of the fair to life with the crowds of the midway and the shows of excellence in power and speed at the track.

The book lets the reader relive the fairs of his childhood, or if younger, find out what he or she has missed.

'Spirit of the Dance' Comes to Springfield Symphony Hall

Come see Dublin Worldwide Production's "Spirit of the Dance" when it comes to the Springfield Symphony Hall, September 25th through September 27th, for five spectacular performances.

More than just a dance show, this breathtaking production — which has consistently smashed box office records across the United Kingdom and Europe — combines show-stopping Irish dance with a passionate story line and hauntingly beautiful love songs.

Tickets are on sale now at the Springfield Civic Center Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets. Ticket prices are $20, $25, and $35. Please contact the Box Office for more information. To Charge by phone, call (413) 733-2500, or order at www.symphonyhall.com

This blockbusting Irish production stars one of the world's most beautiful Irish Dancers, World Irish Dance champion Patricia Murray, whose stunning looks and extraordinary talent ooze sensuality and passion. She leads the Irish International Dance Company, one of the most dynamic dance companies in the world.

Night after night, thrilled audiences give this charismatic production the standing ovation it rightly commands as "Spirit of the Dance" masterfully weaves together powerful Irish energy with the primeval forces of tap dance, jazz, classical ballet and flamenco.

The Nields and other Bands Keep Local Scene Busy

by Josh Sheer
Editorial and Opinions Editor

After wrestling with EMI for the rights to their back catalogue, The Nields backed out of their multi-record deal with the national label and put out a wonderful album called *'Mousse* in May.

The album includes two live tracks: "Einstein's Daughter" and "Superhero Soup," both taped at the Iron Horse in Northampton on February 7 of this year.

It also includes an electric version of "Waco Lake," which originally appeared on the album Abigail several years ago, and takes of "Julia (not Julia)" and "Blind," which were the first two songs the band recorded as a quintet.

'Mousse also includes 13 songs never released on record before, included the long-awaited recording of "Cool in the Backseat," which fans have been waiting to hear since it was first played live in 1996.

Other new songs include "The Trade," "Daddy's Little Girl," and "39 Orange Street," all of which have potential for radio airplay.

"I Hate MCI," a fun little number about the habit some people have of just losing touch with everyone they used to know, also appears on the album.

While *'Mousse* was released independently, The Nields have signed a record deal with Zoe Records, a subsidiary of Rounder, which also carries such acts as Julianna Hatfield.

The next album, *Play*, is set to be released on September 29. It will include mostly new songs, like "Tomorrowland," "Snowman," and "Friday at the Circle K."

The Nields will be playing three concerts at the Iron Horse on October 24 and 25. The Maggies will be opening those shows.

*

Jim's Big Ego, masterminded by local folk legend Jim Infantino, signed with Eastern Front Records over the summer, and will be releasing a new album *Don't Get Smart* on September 15.

The album is now available through the band's website at www.bigego.com, and includes some multimedia tracks.

*

See **MUSIC, next page**

MUSIC, from previous page

Northampton-based groovy-folk-guy Chaz will be releasing a cassette with seven new songs on September 14. If his first effort, a five-song tape with no title, is any indication, this new collection promises to be a lot of fun.

You can see Chaz perform at the Fire & Water Vegetarian Cafe and Performance Space in Northampton several Sundays each month. Contact the cafe for more information.

*

Amherst-based hipsters yeP! put out a two-CD live album over the summer called *Bosco's Magic Shop*. The album is classic yeP!, and with the exception of a forgivable miscalculation or two (like the 22-minute "Bosco"), it is definitely worth a listen.

The album is not complete, however, unless you order it through the band (www.cs.umass.edu/~jg/yep.html), because it will come with a cassette of some of the more bizarre moments from yeP! shows titled *Nitz Bitz*.

Unfortunately, no reunion tour is in sight, with guitarist/sax player Jackson Davis Carson still in Colorado. And yes, that's my name in the liner notes.

*

All in all, it should be a good fall for local music. Pearl Street Nightclub and the Calvin Theater were both bought by Eric Suher, who owns the Iron Horse, and many notable acts will be coming to all three of those venues.

The Infinity in Springfield is now owned by Matt Langlois, who has recently started booking nationally known acts.

Beginning Wednesday, September 16, the Infinity will be holding college night, during which students will receive half off the door charge with a student ID. For what's going on, remember to check the Advocate weekly or *The Westerner* semi-monthly, and enjoy yourselves a little.

Photo/Andrew Day

The Nields

Matthew Kahler Releases New CD

by Josh Shear

It took four solo albums, two live collaborations with Matthew Kahler, and about ten years of rigorous touring, but Shawn Mullins is ready for the big time.

His latest album, *Soul's Core*, is set to be re-released with one additional song and new cover art on Columbia Records on September 15.

The first single from the album, "Lullaby," was being played so much this summer in Atlanta that people started comparing it to the Red Hot Chili Peppers' "Under the Bridge."

It is also beginning to receive extensive Valley-area airplay on 104.1 FM and 96.5 FM, among other alternative and Top 40 stations.

As with previous albums, *Soul's Core* features Shawn's trademark introspective writing, and once again a cover of a Kris Kristofferson song appears on the album.

"Lullaby," the lead single, is a partly spoken-word song about a girl in the audience at one of his shows in San Francisco. He slyly sings, "it's hard to play a gig in this town and keep a straight face...it's kinda like Nashville with a tan."

While *Eggshells* is a bit more of a country album than the rest, it is one of the better albums released this decade and is definitely worth a listen. Shawn's web page may be found at www.shawnmullins.com.

Western New England College Channel Line-Up

(7)	Preview Guide	(39)	BET
(8)	WTNH-8 ABC	(40)	WGGB-40 ABC
(9)	TBS	(42)	CNN- Headline News
(10)	C-SPAN	(43)	TNT
(11)	WPIX-11 WB	(44)	MOR Music
(12)	Religious Access	(45)	MSNBC
(13)	Public Access	(47)	Golf Channel
(19)	Contining Edu. Falcon Channel	(48)	ESPN2
(20)	Q2: Resource TV	(49)	Access TV
(21)	Community Prog/ WHDH-7 NBC	(50)	Home & Garden
(22)	WWLP-22 NBC	(51)	fX
(23)	WFSB-3 CBS	(57)	Sports Channel
(24)	WEDH-24 PBS	(58)	ESPN
(25)	Lifetime	(59)	MTV
(26)	Univision	(60)	USA Network
(27)	Government Acc. MA State House	(61)	Discovery Channel
(28)	Spgfd. Library	(62)	CNN
(29)	Education Access	(63)	VH-1
(30)	WVIT-30 NBC	(64)	Sci-Fi Channel
(31)	WTIC-61 FOX	(65)	WNEC Target Vision Channel
(32)	TheWeather Channel		
(33)	The Family Channel		
(34)	Home Shopping Network		
(35)	Employment Channel		
(36)	WDMR-65 IND		
(37)	WGBY-57 PBS		
(38)	WSBK-38 UPN		

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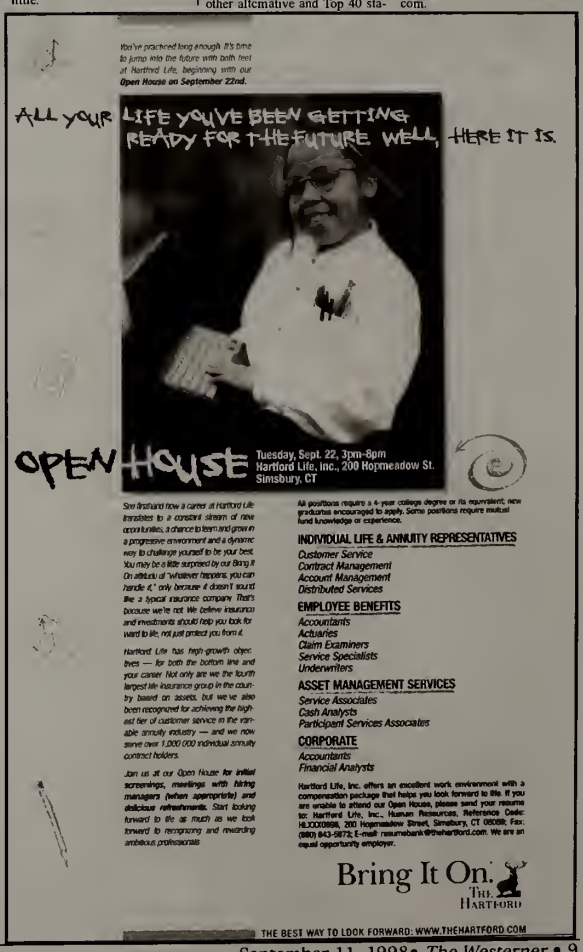

Sports

September, 1998

WNEC Teams Aim High

An Overview of the Woman's Soccer and Men's Football Teams

by Ryan O'Connor
Sports Writer

The fall season is under way and the Western New England College athletes are ready for another successful sport season.

Many of the teams have already begun their season, while others are practicing to get out the last kinks before their first games.

The preseason started in late August for the soccer and football teams. The preseason consisted of triple session practices, which helped drill the athletes into shape.

The football team prepares for what it hopes will be a victorious season

The women's soccer team has high expectations after a great season last year.

Coach Ron Dias believes that his young team can do even better than last year's, and hopes to beat the 14-7 record. Many new athletes will guided this around by veteran captains Katie Brunelle, Jen Bonafede and Carry Hoffman.

Junior Alison Resiegne will anchor what seems to be an unstoppable defense.

On the first weekend of September the College held its first invitational for the first tournament of the woman's soccer year. In their first game the girls dominated Johnson & Wale, beating them 12-0.

In the championship game the girls faced St. Joseph's in what seemed to be a better challenge for WNEC. Although both teams WNEC faced were not strong teams, the athletes here proved that this year they are out to win it all.

Meanwhile, this year's football team also has high hopes after compiling a winning record last year at 4-3.

The team has a few new faces and a new look on offense with a new starting quarterback. After the loss of J. P. Mancuso, junior Steve Connual will be this season's quarterback.

The team has suffered two key losses, though — Frank Lieto and Lester Johnson.

The offense appears to be just as strong, with players like Andy Kaneris returning as running back, Mike Roach as wide receiver, and Jim McDonough as tightend.

Their first game, a homegame, will be against Westfield State on September 19.

Take advantage of this opportunity to see our athletes in action!

Martial Arts Team Hopes to Finally Get Recognition

by Brian Boczenowski
Staff Writer

The trophies in the front lobby of the Alumni Healthful Living Center are numerous and diverse, yet in every case there is at least one trophy for a sport that doesn't get much recognition.

At least, perhaps, until now.

The martial arts team at Western New England College has been a year-round sport for quite awhile at the school, and has always received less attention than larger sports like field hockey, football, and baseball.

However, in an onslaught of changes to the Athletic Department, martial arts will get equal billing with the rest of the sports.

It will be business as usual, though, for Coach Kevin Andrews, and Assistant Coach Li Buei as they attempt to regain the past glory of previous years' martial arts teams.

Based on the energetic display of the opening practice, the team will be a hard working unit as they strive to make a name for themselves, doing what they do best: kicking opponents into defeat.

The members hope that the recognition they receive will extent beyond a trophy behind a pane of glass.

Theulen "Enthused" To Be New Athletic Director

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

A new school year has come upon us, and another change at Western New England College has occurred.

The college is proud to announce that Dr. Mike Theulen will take the reign as the new Athletic Director.

Theulen, who is originally from New Hampshire, has recently been involved in the sports programs at Springfield College. From 1983-1986, Theulen was their Women's Basketball coach.

Then, from 1986-1990, he "changed sexes," moving from coaching the Women's Basketball team to being an assistant coach to the Men's Basketball team.

Theulen is very enthusiastic about being the new athletic director at Western New England College. He indicated that he is very aware that the Athletic Department and its procedures need improvement.

Theulen said that President Caprio "is committed to see athletics become a positive force on this campus," and that he himself is here to see that become a reality.

One basic goal the new Athletic Director has is to make student athletes realize that they are an important part of this institution. For instance, he wants to provide a safe environment by hiring more athletic trainers to assist needs of the players.

> ***... the Althletic Department and its procedures need improvement ...***

Also, Mike will speak to members of the Student Senate to develop a Captain's Council. This Council would consist of team captains from each team. The captains would be able to make their feelings know about how to improve their team, or how to handle any problems that are occurring within or among the teams.

Theulen said that "forming a Captain's Council would help to chart our course" in the plan to improve the athletics at this institution.

As the new Athletic Director, he has also been personally involved in talking to athletes to make them feel like they are in a family environment, where each player is special and should be recognized as such.

He is also pursuing the idea of Western New England College having a Men's and Women's Cross Country team, as well as a Women's Tennis Team.

He believes that student athletes also need to be more challenged in their academics pursuits, leadership and athletic skills.

Theulen will try his very best to help out in this process and added, "from my perspective, there is no past — today we start building."

CHANGES, from page 1

Center.

Also, the weight room will be fully functional and supervised to reduce the risk of injury.

There will be a Captain's Council so the leaders of the teams can work with Dr. Theulen and Coach Sassi to plot the course of the athletic program.

There will be banquets at the end of each season, as opposed to the individual team banquets of the past.

Additionally, the Board of Trustees is pending the approval of the Golden Bears Booster Club.

Dr. Caprio and Dr. Theulen told students these were the first steps to advance intercollegiate athletics at Western New England College.

Men's Soccer Schedule

9/12	Southern Vermont College	Home	1:00 pm
9/17	Elms College	Away	4:00 pm
9/18	Westfield State College	Away	7:00 pm
9/19	Amherst College	Home	1:00 pm
9/23	Worcester State College	Home	4:00 pm
9/26	Fitchburg State College	Home	11:00 am
9/29	USCGA	Away	4:00 pm
10/1	Becker College	Home	4:00 pm
10/8	Springfield College	Home	4:00 pm

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Dear Sandy & Rizzo....

***The Westerner*'s Roving Reporters Ask Freshmen:**

What attracted you to WNEC?

"I just liked the campus."
— Scott Ruggio

"I liked the location and the program."
— Kristin Roselli

"I liked it for the program for my major, criminal justice."
— Krystyna Isbell

"Wasn't far from home, nice campus."
— Charley Webb (left)

"A lot of help here, like the Writing Center and Math Center."
— Paul Isidora (right)

"Liked the food at SOAR, didn't like the unfriendly campus. Want some 'hellos' around here, otherwise flawless."
— Brian Taylor (right)

"I like the gazebo, and the way they water the grass at the AHLC."
— Rich Servello (left)

Golden Bear Classifieds

Book Wanted

Wanted - *Mechanics of Materials* book -by Hibbeler, with gray cover. Call 796-4390.

For Sale

'92 Suzuki DR350S. Dual purpose, 2600 miles, SuperTrapp exhaust, jet kit, Progressive suspension, many extras. Prof. maintained. Asking $2100. Call Scott, 739-7905.

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Space available to advertise in the classified section. For more details contact Jennifer O'Brien at 782-1581 for more details.

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Help Wanted

The Westerner is looking to fill staff positions for the 1998-99 school year. Please inquire at Student Publications Office or call Wayne Barr at 782-1580. Assistant Editor, A&E, Advertising available.

ATTENTION SENIORS!!!

Just a reminder that senior photos are coming up real soon!!

September

28	*29*	*30*

Look for your appointment card from *Fine Point Photography* that will be arriving in your mail box. Don't forget your $5 sitting fee. Hope to see you there!

~Cupola Staff

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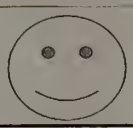

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Western New England College

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Additional toppings	$1.30
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Coke - Diet Coke - Sprite – Ice Tea

Cans. $.75 6-Packs $2.99

THE WESTERNER

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Homecoming Begins New Traditions, Celebrates Old

by Natalie Pisarcik
Staff Writer

Homecoming weekend started off with a bang this year as new traditions were developed and old traditions were observed.

Headlining the weekend was the new tradition of the first annual pep-rally/bonfire, which was sponsored by Western New England College's own Marketing Association.

This event was held on Friday evening in the Tundra and appeared to have been a huge success.

Fall athletes attended and were welcomed by Western New England College's Cheerleading and Dance teams.

Seniors and captains on the teams were announced and ran through signs made by the cheerleading team.

Sports teams in attendance included woman's volleyball, field hockey, men's soccer, and football.

After the announcing of the athletes, the bonfire was to be lit by head football coach Gerry Martin. After a few minutes, the wooden crates eventually took flame with such fury that some spectators wondered if the surrounding trees would catch on fire.

Punch and hot dogs were available for the spectators.

The hotdogs were placed on five inch sticks that were to be used to cook in 500-foot flames. It wasn't before long that a few members of the football team retrieved a large branch from the surrounding woods and placed about six hotdogs on the out spurting branches. They then attempted to cook the wieners, but were unsuccessful.

No one was injured, or burned, and nothing other then the wooden crates caught on fire. All in all the bonfire/pep rally was a huge success and a beginning to a great

See HOMECOMING, page 11

McBride Talks about Race in the United States

by Josh Shear
Ed/Op Editor

Tuesday night, October 6, James McBride brought wisdom, insight, humor, and an incredible journey through his past to Dining Room B.

The lecture was the first of the 1998-99 Arthur and Rebecca Marchall Human Relations and Human Issues Lectures at Western New England College.

McBride, author of *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*, spoke about growing up the son of a Black Baptist minister and a White Orthodox Jew.

Professor Michael Meeropol, Chair of the Economics Department, gave McBride a warm introduction that included some history about the Holocaust, from which McBride's mother's family escaped, and some history about the long struggle of Black Americans to gain equal freedom and recognition.

This is a struggle that finds Blacks "still negotiating that minefield" more than a century after the Emancipation Proclamation, and 30 years since the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

McBride came to talk about his mother, who, though he's 40 years old, he still calls, "Mommy."

She grew up in Poland, the daughter of an Orthodox Rabbi. Her family escaped before the country was conquered by Nazi Germany, and wound up in Virginia.

In America, according to McBride, her father started to destroy the family, often beating his children. His only son ran away at age 15, and McBride's mother ran off and married a Black man when she was 17.

See MCBRIDE, page 3

James McBride speaks in Dinning Room B

"First Year Seminar" Replaces "College Success Skills"

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

Many of the upperclassmen remember their College Success Skills class with dread.

What some may not realize is that "College Success Skills" is now called "First Year Seminar." But is the change substantial, or has the class just been given a new name and a face-lift?

The mandatory course was designed to help freshmen adjust to the changes of college life and develop skills that would help them academically, socially, and to some extent, later on in life.

Although some upperclassmen look back on the class with disdain, they acknowledge that "College Success Skill" did help them.

Junior Mike Joaquin found that the emphasis of the class — setting goals and time management — came in useful later in his college career.

Joaquin, a commuter, added that despite the course's long-term benefits, there was still "too much work," which took away from time he could have spent in other classes.

Sophomore Amy Karash, felt the "College Success Skills" course didn't help her at all.

As a resident student, she felt the class should have focused more on adjusting to college life, such as the new found freedoms of living away from home and trying to get your work done.

According to Karash, CSS was hyped up at SOAR as a class to help you learn about the college and how to adjust. The class itself, however, disappointed her.

As Theodore Zern, Dean of Freshmen and Transfer Students pointed out, it makes sense that a college concerned with providing a way to develop academic skills and attitudes for success would want to ensure that a first-year freshman program would actually want to accomplish that.

However, many students seem to think that the CSS class of old was not useful in achieving the goals it set out to do.

The question therefore remains: is the new class, "First Year Seminar," just "College Success Skills" with a new name?

Dean Zern doesn't think so. Although "First Year Seminar" retains many of the features of "College Success Skills," it is intended to be more student-specific.

Previously, students from the college's different schools more or less enrolled in the same course.

"Before it was one size fits all," he said, "and you really can't."

Under the new program, students in each school use different texts.

"Inquiry," the text for students in the School of Arts and Sciences, is a cross-curricular reader which exposes students to segments of various disiplines, said Zern.

Students in the School of Engineering use a text appropriately titled "Success Skills for Engineers."

Students from the School of Business are using Steven Covey's famous "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People," which has been used for several years.

Other changes have been made as well. Students in the School of Arts and Science now have a career/research component to help them explore prospective majors and to assist with self-assessment.

In Dean Zern's opinion, the "First Year Seminar" is also more focused on career exploration and confirming your major. He also pointed out that the class is intended to provide a process for students to become integrated into the college.

The change in the name of the course is meant to convey a broader application of the skills it teaches.

"'College Success Skills' denoted some pre-professional or pre-preparatory class," said Zern, What do freshmen think of the course?

Freshman Bemadette Gagne, who is using "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People, said that the "book seems cheesy," and that the students she knows cannot seem to connect with it.

The book was greeted with similar comments from non-freshmen who had used it before.

Sophomore Stephanie Houde felt that the seven habits where not effective — in fact, she couldn't even remember what they where, since they did not apply to her actual college experiences, she said.

Sophomore Rachelle Hanson, a resident student, remembers the emphasis of her "College Success Skills" class was supposed to be on time management and developing good study habits.

However, her main complaint about the course was that it didn't focus on what it said it would. Instead, the focus seemed to be on Steven Covey's seven habits.

Bernadette Gagne thinks the new class, at least in the School of Business, has too much emphasis on the book, and not enough on the adjusting to college life.

She added that the Freshman Focus programs, which are mandatory componants of the "First Year Seminar," are of limited value in getting commuting students like her involved on campus, simply because of the difficulty in getting to campus.

As for the focus being on career exploration and your major, Bemadette feels the emphasis on the book undermines any notion of that as a focus in the School of of Business.

Of course, most freshmen are disgruntled about the orientation and skill-developing course, whether it is called "College Success Skills" or "First Year Seminar."

Although many of them may feel that the course is not helpful, perhaps more of them will eventually realize, as Mike Joaquim later did, that there may be some useful benefits they will discover later in their college careers.

ROTC Goes Rappelling

by Tina Tadavich
Contributing Writer

On Saturday, September 26, ROTC cadets from Western New England College went rappelling with UMass cadets.

Cadets rappelled off 30-, 60-, and 90-foot bridges in Huntington.

The 30-foot bridge had a wall to help cadets down, but the 60- and 90-foot bridges were straight drops to the bottom.

Any cadet who had a fear of heights quickly got over the phobia, and came back up with a feeling of excitement.

Rappelling can be a dangerous exercise, but all safety measures were taken prior to the arrival of the cadets. Cadets made Swiss seats out of ropes that were checked twice for tightness.

Those cadets whose seats were not tight enough were sent back to re-tie the seats for their own safety.

Cadets flew out in a Chinook, an Army helicopter, to get to the rappel site. Excitement was seen on many of the faces of the cadets as they saw a Schnook for the first time.

Prior to boarding the aircraft, a safety brief was given in case of an emergency. Cadets got to the rappel site via air mobile, and everyone had a chance to go over every ledge.

A member of the ROTC freshman class goes rapelling on the 30' site after being flown there by helicopter

Rappelling was a unique experience for the many cadets who had never been before. Cadets who went can now tell others about their experiences, and may encourage others to see what the ROTC program is all about.

The program has other activities besides the rappelling exercise, and encourages teamwork, leadership, initiative, and confidence in one's ability to accomplish any task.

Anyone interested in the ROTC program on campus may contact anyone in the ROTC building.

The Society of Women Engineers at Western New England College

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer

The Society of Woman Engineers is an organization with local chapters in colleges and universities around the country, including Western New England College.

According to the national SWE website — www.swe.org — the organization has three objectives.

The first is to help women reach their full potential as engineers.

The second objective is to broaden the image of engineers as professionals working to enhance the quality of life.

The third objective is to display the value of diversity in engineering.

The Western New England College Chapter of SWE strives to maintain these objectives through its meetings and activities.

Members of the organization tour engineering facilities together to motivate women toward high-tech jobs.

It also hold an annual dinner for female alumni of the engineering program at WNEC.

This dinner gives alumni a chance to tell SWE members about finding and keeping a good job after graduation.

SWE is also involved in activities that are not related to engineering.

Its members are involved in bonding activities such as off-campus dinners and trips to health spas.

Also, the Society sponsors a volleyball tournament every year. This is done within the School of Engineering.

All activities of SWE are meant to promote women. Men are permitted to join, but all members must be engineers.

For more information about the Society of Women Engineers, contact Nicole Pizzuti by e-mail at npizzuti@wnec.edu.

To join the organization, students must pay an initial fifteen dollar fee.

The Rock's Journey to Higher Education

by Brende Mersien
Contributing Writer

Karl Jurgen '68 and a bunch of his buddies were slumped in sofas and making small talk some thirty years ago at an off-campus apartment. It was a brief lull before the cramming of final exams and the young men's idle chatting turned to a gripe session on feeling bored. Jurgen grew irritated over the complaints of nothing to do and the eagerness for graduation day to arrive.

"It was crazy. There we were - educated, healthy young men, moping about being bored," Enough was enough, Jurgen quickly ended the complaints and exclaimed, "Let's do something then. We can leave our mark on WNEC in fine style."

The Class of '68's efforts to curb their boredom turned into a lasting and ever present legacy at Western New England College. A large, red sandstone rock was about to begin a journey down Wilbraham Road to its new home.

Four roommates evolved into a committee of Ken Cotty, Peter Duhamel, Dean Fraser, George Gaunt, Rick Holland, Bob James, Bob Joyal, Karl Jurgen, Shelby Kaplan, Dave Kenison, Bill Piersol, Ted Rauh, Barry Roberts, Fred Siegfried and two '69 grads, Dan Castellano and Jeff Roche, who met religiously to discuss their plan to bring some spirit to the campus, attract the attention of a conservative administration and excite fellow classmates.

"Karl had a mind for great ideas. Whatever he suggested we'd do," said Rick Holland who tried taking the credit of single-handedly carrying the boulder on his back and dropping it on campus. "It was really just a pebble and grew over the last thirty years."

Suggestions on what to do were many. One idea was to hire a parachutist to dress as the Golden Bear, jump out of a plane and land on the athletic fields. Unfortunately, no parachutist was willing to risk falling into the nearby electric unit. Another suggestion was to place a large rock at the parking spot of President Beaumont Herman and somehow remove the Cupola. But Jurgen wanted to accomplish something that would be positive, permanent and not break too many rules along the way.

The Rock idea stuck and with resources like Barry Roberts '68, whose father owned a construction company and Karl's father who worked for Daniel O'Connell and Sons, gave the class access to a rock, dump truck and other essential equipment.

Just a few miles down the road construction was under way on a Grants Department Store, now the Five Town Plaza that houses Caldors.

See ROCK, page 4

Remembering Professor Warner

by Jennifer O'Brien
Layout Editor

Hoyt D. Warner, 59, of Wethersfield, and a Professor of Arts and Sciences at Western New England College, passed away Thursday, September 10 after a courageous battle with cancer.

A cum laude graduate from Harvard University in 1959, he went on to get his masters from Yale University in 1962 followed by his doctorate in 1968 from the University of Oregon.

He joined the faculty of Western New England College in 1984 as an Associate Professor of Computer Science.

Taking on leadership of a newly formed computer science degree program, he oversaw the graduation of 136 of his students.

Professor Warner's continuing commitment to both his students and their education was unfaltering.

As Professor Luciano rightly said, "It was his intrinsic nature to pass this knowledge on to all who would listen."

It was his unquenchable thirst for learning that enabled him to be both mentor and student.

For the past 14 years, Professor Warner touched the lives of all who were priviledged to know him. He will be greatly missed by many.

It is the intent of the Math & Computer Science department to ensure that his legacy will continue.

What is currently the Computer Science Book Award, an annual academic honor given to an expected graduate in the field of Computer Science, will be renamed in honor of Professor Hoyt Warner.

At the request of his family a memorial fund has been created in his name, the Professor Hoyt D. Warner Computer Excellence Award.

With the generous donations, the Computer Science department hopes to dedicate the new computer classroom in Herman 115 in his name.

It will be your generosity that will allow this to happen.

"Your spirit will live on with us as we grow old together, and your distant voice will continue to be heard thoughout the corridors of Herman Hall." (Luciano)

Professor Hoyt D. Warner in 1995

MCBRIDE, from page 1

She changed her first name from Rachel to Ruth, because she wanted it to sound more American, and the family sat shiva (a week-long mourning period in the Jewish religion) for her because it felt she had abandoned her faith by marrying a non-Jew.

In their eyes she was dead, and so the first chapter of McBride's book is titled "Dead."

The book is written in alternating voices, that is, chapter one is written in Ruth McBride's voice while chapter two is written in James's. Chapter three reverts back to Ruth's, and so forth.

Ruth McBride and her husband moved into a small apartment in Brooklyn, and "basically started breeding." Eventually, the family ended up in Harlem, and Mrs. McBride outlived two husbands while giving birth to 12 children.

Although the children grew up in a household and neighborhood populated by what McBride terms "the working poor," all the children are successful.

There are doctors, teachers, chemists, professors and even what may end up to be a career student among them. (Meeropol quipped in the beginning that "[McBride] just told me that one recently applied for tenure as a student.")

James McBride himself is no slacker. When he was still in high school, he toured Europe with a school band, playing saxophone.

He later graduated from Oberlin College and Columbia School of Journalism. He has had much of his work published in many newspapers and magazines, including the *Boston Globe*, the *New York Times*, and *Rolling Stone*.

In 1993, he won the Stephen Sondheim Award, and in 1996 he won ASCAP's Richard Rodgers Horizons Award and the American Arts and Letters Richard Rodgers Development Award.

His book is being made into a movie, for which he is writing the screenplay, and he has been commissioned to help write jazz legend Quincy Jones's autobiography, due out the end of next year.

After speaking for a little more than a half hour, McBride entertained questions for roughly the same length of time. One of the questions that was asked was McBride's opinion on Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan's pro-black and anti-Semitic messages. Since McBride is both Black and (technically) Jewish, where did he stand in relation to Farrakhan?

McBride's answer was simple. He doesn't condone Farrakhan's anti-Semitic rhetoric, but he does believe that the Nation of Islam leader is among the only noticeable people in the country pulling young Blacks together. But there is a point where he "just gets off" the boat.

Someone asked about his views on race relatiuns in the U.S. today, and challenged McBride's belief that affirmative action is a good thing.

McBride said he doesn't "believe you can legislate change," that it's up to the individual to facilitate whatever changes in personal views and actions may be necessary.

He also doesn't believe that there really is as big a race issue as the media tends to portray — he compared current race issues to the Monica Lewinsky/Bill Clinton scandal, saying, "Everyone's sick of it, but somebody's watching and somebody's buying," otherwise we wouldn't be hearing about it anymore.

As for affirmative action, McBride holds that it is a good thing, that Blacks are being given equal opportunities to have jobs.

When an audience member asked if he thought affirmative action was going too far when a Black person will be hired over an equally or even slightly better-qualified White person because of an employer's need to make quotas.

McBride replied with the brutally honest answer that "somewhere, someone will hire that White person."

McBride kept the talk light, often interjecting jokes. He started off by asking the audience to remind him to "slip [Meeropol] a five later" for the great introduction, and then continued by saying, "it's great to see so many white — er, nice — people here tonight."

None of his humor was perceived as poor taste, and it kept the audience on its toes.

THE WESTERNER

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ROTC

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

ROCK, from page 3

"Everything we had learned in college was falling into place. We really tested our ability to follow through on a plan. Every discipline we studied was challenged," said Jurgen. Engineers found maps of the campus and its underground plumbing and wiring to identify a safe place to plant the rock. Business majors calculated the cost of the mission, where to purchase their equipment and what kind of manpower they would need to follow through on their project.

It is ironic that the leader of the Rock operation, Karl Jurgen, does strategic and tactical business planning for international joint ventures at ABB Combustion Engineering in Windsor, CT. From placing a boulder on a college campus to traveling to the Ukraine to provide advanced instrumentation to powerstations, Karl's experience with the Rock was a premonition of his future career.

Robert Joyal '68 was President of the Class that year and called upon to help woo Dean of Students, Andrew Mulcahy.

"I think Karl thought I would be able to pull them out of trouble if anything went wrong," said Joyal, now Vice President of Operations for Milton Bradley, in East Longmeadow, MA. As for Dean Mulcahy, he merely shook his head and advised the students to be careful and not give him the details of their plan.

For Joyal the Rock mission was about making new friends.

"I was in a different fraternity than Karl, and we were never in any classes together, but his idea for Class Day brought together so many different people," Joyal added that Jurgen's enthusiasm was contagious and caused everyone to want to get involved.

At 4:30 a.m. on May 16, 1968, the WNEC troop made their way to the construction sight. With the help of some hired construction workers, the rock was lifted by a gradal onto the back of a borrowed dump truck. The weight of the rock had made it impossible for Karl to drive the truck out of the hole where the rock had been and the gradal was used again to push the truck out of its trap.

Slowly, Jurgen drove the rock to it's final destination. The rock wobbled in the back of the truck, making the drive to the dropping sight tedious.

"My role was giving Karl directions," laughed Peter Duhamel, who stood behind the truck and yelled out instructions on when to drop the rock. "We were scared. As rebellious as we thought we were, we just wanted to graduate," continued Duhamel, who did get his diploma that year and is today Vice President of Sales for Prentice Hall Publishing.

Once on campus, there were a few loose ends to tidy up, such as the pesky night watchman who was quickly detained and tied to a nearby tree until it was certain he wouldn't tattle.

The stress was intense for Jurgen, the man at the wheel of the truck as it teetered in the sky from the weight of the 7 foot rock. His main concern throughout the rock delivery was to not hurt anyone or damage property.

"My teeth felt like they had been fused together," Jurgen remembered the fear that took over. "Ken Cotty who was sitting in the passenger seat told me I was nuts and jumped out of the truck," Jurgen smiled at his recollection and memory of his increasing concern. His cavalier remark to generate some spirit was quickly becoming a serious mission that had to be completed. There was no turning back.

"The ground actually shook from the impact" said Holland, who today runs his own CPA firm in New Jersey.

But when the rock finally fell into its shallow hole and the cheers from his friends filled the air, Jurgen knew his charge was almost complete. Only a few minor finishing touches remained.

According to Joyal, the class had wanted to attach a plaque on the rock signifying their triumphant efforts. The cost was too expensive, so they settled fnr a "'68" painted in white — the beginning of a regular ritual of painting the rock.

While one group of men were finishing the rock project, the fraternity Sigma Theta Chi lead by George Gaunt '68 were completing the task of tying a weather balloon to the top of the Administration Building's Cupola. Paul Oliver '68 was the dare devil brave enough to climb the two tiered building and balance on a ladder.

"I made the mistake of looking down at the pavement below and then it hit me how high up I climbed" said Oliver, who is the owner of Taylor Rental in Enfield, CT and credits George Gaunt for motivating him to balance on a wobbling ladder four stories from the ground. The ladder was placed as far up the Cupola as possible and Oliver pushed up the weather balloon with a pole and carefully looped a rope around the end of the balloon and pulled it nice and secure around the steeple.

The weather balloon managed to float beside the Cupnla until 8:30 a.m. when a light wind blew it off it's pedestal.

That morning as anticipated, a gathering of students, faculty and staff formed around the Rock. The Class of '68 threw a few firecrackers to help make the crowd grow while a select group were summons to find President Beaumont Herman and escort him to the Rock. Herman, who Karl recalls as a stern, serious man, slowly managed a little smile over the sight of the new campus landmark.

"I'm sure Dean Mulcahy briefed him on our plan. We were fortunate that the administration was so cool about this," said Jurgen.

"I can't believe they didn't have us remove the thing," Shelby Kaplan '68, owner of a packaging and janitorial supply company said in amazement.

"No one ever asked who brought the rock. I think we did something good for the College and brought a lot of spirit to our class," said Dean Fraser, one of the accomplices who is now an aviation manager and chief pilot for United Dominion Industries in Charlotte, North Carolina.

"We just wanted to bake a cake," Joyal recalled, "But the fact that the Rock is now a major focal point and utilized by students is the frosting on that cake."

The grand finale of their perfect mission was completed by George Gaunt, an accomplished pilot who choreographed an air show to the tune "Snoopy and the Red Baron" that blared out of speakers placed throughout the campus. Carefully, Gaunt flew his two seat plane above the administration building, completed a few spiral turns and dropped thousands of ping pong balls to an elated crowd. The ping pongs scattered and students collected them to read the different sayings and well wishes written by the class of 1968.

"I'm glad the College kept the rock because it keeps the memory of that day current in our lives. It was really a fun time," said Oliver.

It was the end of innocence for the Class of 1968. The first Western New England College class to include full-time day students were about to enter a severe societal change, a threatening war and an abrupt entrance into adulthood.

"Sometimes on our way up to a ski trip I'll stop by the campus and show my kids what we did," smiled Holland, who fondly called Western New England College his home. "This was our last hoorah and it's now a really vivid and wonderful memory," summed up Holland.

The Class of 1968 celebrated their successful mission at Robinson State Park in Agawam, MA. Although classes since have tried to outdo 1968's rock abduction, none have generated the spirit and camaraderie that Karl Jurgen's men created.

The Rock dedicated to the Class of 1968

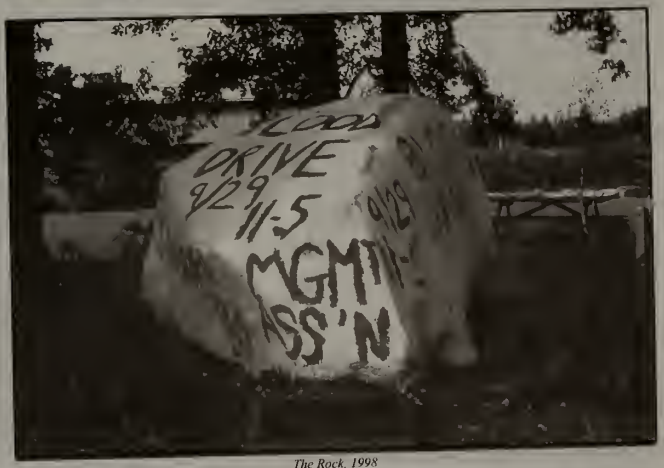
The highlight of Homecoming '98 was the dedication of Western New England College's landmark Rock to the Class of 1968.

"It was the intention of the Class of 1968 to leave a plaque to commemorate their rock mission, but lack of funds did not allow them to purchase one.

Instead, they began a wonderful tradition of painting the rock and signed 68 on it's surface," explained Dr. Anthony Caprio during the rock dedication ceremonies.

Thirty years later the College has bestowed to the Class of '68 a plaque so that students and visitors of the College may learn of this Rock's journey to campus and the tremendous spirit and love alumni have for their College.

The plaque's citations reads:



The Rock, 1998

On May 16, 1968 Karl Jurgen '68 led his classmates on a mission to leave their mark on Western New England College. This great red sandstone boulder was excavated and placed by the Class of '68 in honor of Class Day. Their quest to bring spirit to the campus has been a success, as this great rock symbolizes Western New England College's solid foundation. We honor and thank the Class of 1968 for their ingenuity, hard work and commitment to the College.

On hand for the ceremonies was Karl Jurgen, the leader of the Rock escapade and his friends and classmates Richard Holland, Shelby Kaplan and Bill Piersol.

"This is just great," beamed Jurgen, "I never imagined that what we did would have such an important role on campus." The three friends gingerly climbed the rock and admired what they had accomplished; wondering how many coats of paint had been covered on it's surface. Rumor has it that the '68 brigade is scheming another stunt to surpass their 30 year old prank.

Advice Column

Ask Sandy & Rizzo ...

(Sandy and Rizzo are The Westerner's advice columnists. It may not be good, but it's definitely advice.)

Dear Sandy and Rizzo:

I'm thinking of moving off campus next semester, but I don't know how to tell my roommate. I'm afraid she'll make my life miserable. I'm unsure what to do.

Just confused

Dear Confused,

Have you tried discussing this subject with your roommate yet? Are you close friends? If you are willing to live off campus with her, ask her to move with you. If she can't, let her know that you are still thinking of moving off campus, but remind her that she is not the reason for your move.

If you aren't friends with your roommate then nicely inform her that you are moving out and leave it at that. — Sandy

*Why would she care? If you live in Gateway now, she gets more space; if in the dorms, then she gets her own room next semester. I'd love to have my own room. If you aren't friends then she probably wouldn't be too upset. And if you are really friends I can't see her "making your life miserable," but if you really think she will, just don't tell her until you start moving out the furniture. ***RIZZO*

Dear Sandy and Rizzo:

My roommate sleeps naked and it makes me feel uncomfortable. What should I do?

Nervous about Nudity

Dear Nervous,

Are you good friends with your roommate, or were you put together randomly? Regardless, your roomie must feel pretty comfortable around you to sleep in the nude. If he/she is that comfortable with you, then you should feel comfortable enough to voice your concerns. Tell them that you aren't used to nudity and feel uncomfortable when he/she is naked.

I have a question, though: If he/she sleeps under sheets and blankets, how do you know he/she is naked? Sandy

No matter what you say, your roommate is going to take it the wrong way. But why does it bother you anyway? Nudity is a natural thing. GET OVER IT!

*You could give her a taste of her own medicine and make her feel uncomfortable. Stare at her in bed, or when she is getting into bed! I'm sure she won't appreciate that. Or, hell, if you feel comfortable enough, get naked too. I don't think she will like both of you naked, or ... maybe ... ***RIZZO*

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

I am a junior. I recently broke up with my summer fling, except it wasn't my idea, he broke up with me. The problem is I can't stop thinking about him long enough to get work done. Last week I failed my first exam ever. How can I get over him before I flunk out of WNEC?

Obsessed and Depressed

Dear Obsessed,

Try to isolate yourself while you are doing your homework. Go to the library, get a study room, and force yourself to study. Don't bring a walkman, the music might remind you of him. Whatever you do, don't let him get into your academic life.

Think of your relationship as a learning experience. Ask yourself what was good, what was bad, and why the relationship ended. Always value what you had with him, but remember that he wasn't "Mr. Right" and there is someone better for you out there.

Try to think positive! Have fun, but take care of yourself. Enjoy yourself and STUDY!!! — Sandy

That is really a tough one. It is hard for me to answer because I have been in the same situation in the recent past. I failed some exams from it and missed a few classes. My life changed for a few months. Nothing mattered anymore. You just want to be with the other person.

I can't really give advice since I couldn't even help myself. People told me to move on but whenever I was with someone else I would imagine being with the other person.

*Basically, it will pass after awhile. Another fish will swim along in that big blue sea. Sandy is right, FOCUS! It is so hard, but do it. You'll regret it if you don't. ***RIZZO*

If you have a question for Sandy and Rizzo, send it to Box 1234.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

Beginning this year, a new technology fee was added to tuition and other fees. The technology fee pays for internet service, e-mail, and voice mail for residents and commuters. Cable, which was recently installed in residence halls, is now included in the residency fee.

...How Do You Feel About Cable and Voice Mail?

"I hate voice mail. Someone calls, leaves a message, and just assumes I get it. Usually I don't. It's unreliable." — Dave Folger (left)

"Tuition could have been spent better. We need more channels [on cable]."
— Rob Muller (right)

"The voice mail box is useless to me because I have an answering machine at my house."
— Brian Turner

"I didn't even know I paid for voice mail!"
— Theana Christie, commuter (bottom left)

"I really think we should have more cable options. It's limiting."
— Kelly Rokasz (middle)

"The cable is a totally unliberal thing in an already fascist society."
— John Maillet (right)

"I don't use my voice mail box. I have an answering machine."
— Steven Kidd

"I'm happy; I enjoy the cable system."
— Pete Bride (below, in hat)

"More options would be nice, but I like it. The voice mail is okay. The way I see it, you have to pay for [cable] at home, so you should have to pay for it at school."
— Chris Wellman

Letters to the Editor

More Bugs in the System

I thought it ironic in your article, "From the Editor: Warding off the Midnight Cockroach Invasion", about the "decidedly unromantic" mistakes overlooked in the typical panicked frenzy of publishing each issue of *The Westerner*, that you made yet another mistake.

In paragraph ten you wrote, "A headline from the April 17, 1998 issue (one the second page, thankfully)..."

It should read, "A headline from the April 17, 1998 issue (*on* the second page, thankfully)..."

Had you not so lovingly extended the invitation to keep you apprised of these errors, I would not be writing to you now.

However, this should keep you on your toes and at the very least let you know that your readers are throwing their heads back and slapping their knees as they notice such inconsistencies.

Matthew Barr

Editor's note: The author is a potential WNEC transfer student and the younger brother of editor in chief Wayne Barr, who, incidentally, wrote the article in question.

* * *

Elitism at WNEC?

I would like to clarify some remarks about elitism attributed to me in a story about the Honors Program. I said that the Honors Program is elitist in the sense that it recognizes and encourages academic excellence and achievement. In that sense of elitism, I support it.

However, I pointed out that it is not elitist in the sense of creating a privileged group from which most students would be forever excluded. The Honors Program is open to any student who has achieved at least a 3.2 grade point average. Many if not most WNEC students are capable of reaching that level of achievement if they work hard.

In addition, the Honors Program is not designed to separate honors students from or to encourage them to feel superior to other students. Rather, the purpose is to provide a more challenging academic experience to those students who want the extra challenge and extra intellectual stimulation.

Emmatt Barcalow
Professor of Philosophy

* * *

News is news and facts are indisputable. What facts did we get from the recent article about the Honors Classes?

We found out that the previous administration feared an elite forming and that two professors don't really think we'll get an elite, although some form of elitism may arise.

We were left with the notion that the program is doing well so far.

Many people don't even know we have an honors program at the College!

What is the program? How many seminars are offered? How often do they meet? How many credits is a seminar worth? What topics are covered? Which professors are involved? What is required of a student in a seminar? Will the same ones be offered next semester? How do you get involved in the program? Can you

See **LETTERS**, next page

It's a Long Way to Indianapolis

Josh, Inspissated

George Singleton grew up in Los Angeles.

He saw crack and other street drugs destroy his community. He saw gangs killing innocent people, and innocent people joining gangs.

In an effort to turn everything around, Singleton invented a way to grow high-notrient crops in an orban environment.

Singleton, who also believes in herbalist healing theories (that is, using herbs to heal that which modern medicine uses drugs for), saw his farming method get adopted by several communities throughoot the country.

In fact, one is being formed near us in Vermont. He was on his way from Los Angeles to Indianapolis to visit one of these communities when he got pulled over in Oklahoma for speeding.

He was about 60 miles from bis next hotel stop, and in somewhat of a hurry to get there — he'd been driving for a while and he was tired.

Singleton was annoyed at the stop, but understood it; he was going 20 miles per hour over the speed limit, so he waited for the police officer to come by for his license and registration.

He knew this was a different sort of traffic stop, however, when the officer pulled out his weapon some 30 feet from the car and told Singleton to step out of the vehicle.

He had seen his vehicle searched before; police in mostly-white counties often gave Singleton a hard time for being black and wearing his hair in waist-length dreadlocks.

But there is something different about Singleton's blood, no matter what he looks like.

When he was young, Singleton was exposed to tuberculosis (TB). He developed anti-bodies to the disease, and is now in constant danger of contracting it.

While medical technology is of little use to him, Singleton knows that a combination of the herbs rosemary and mullein tends to keep TB away, so he takes them regolarly.

The problem is, the combination of the two looks a little like marijuana, and when the officer found a tobacco tin about half-full of the mixtore, he thought it was marijuana.

So he carted Singleton off to jail, despite the farmer's protests and explanation.

A few hours later, tests confirmed Singleton's claim, but he was kept behind bars. Oklahoma has a law prohibiting possession, sale, and/or use of substances that appear to be controlled substances, even if they're not.

The law is meant to target the hypothetical dealer selling what seems to be marijuana in the train station, even if he is actually trying to pass off oregano to be the more effective hallucinogen.

It took Singleton three weeks to raise the $650 bail to be able to go home. His self-defended hearing for a dismissal of the charges was denied.

Singleton's trial for driving onder the influence of a substance that appeared to be an illegal drug started yesterday.

My problem has been that I can't decide what is the most ridiculous part of Singleton's ordeal. I've come to the conclusion that the simple fact that it all happened is the really ridiculous part.

The case against Singleton goes beyond normal racist stupidity. Not only is he the target of a moronic interpretation of what I believe to be at least a somewhat legitimate law (given its initial target), but Singleton is being singled out because he is a leader in society and he happens to be black.

He has done more good for America's cities than anyone in recent history, and he has done so by learning, inventing and teaching, rather than by taking on the normal role of preacher.

The simple fact that Singleton is black wasn't enough for county police and the D.A.'s office. He is a black leader, he is very intelligent, and he is the sort of person who would invent a nation-wide craze and still endure a drive from L.A. to Indianapolis alone rather than fly first class is what bothered them.

And now they're bothering me.

Hopefully, they're bothering you, too.

Otherwise, kindly don't send me any letters on this issue.

Josh Shaar

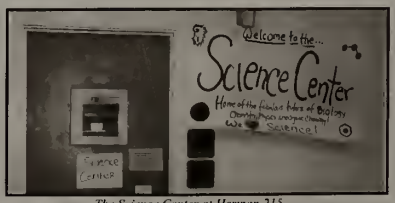
Questions Answered at Science Center

Have you ever sat at your desk and wanted to pull your hair out, scream until your lungs collapse, or wanted to burn your books and notebooks, all because you could not understand something in one of the subjects of science?

I'm sure most of us have, especially me, and that is why I'm writing this article: to let you know about the college's Science Center.

It is a place designed to help students who are enrolled in any of the 100-level Biology, Chemistry or Physics courses, or the evil Organic Chemistry courses offered here at WNEC.

So, before you pull out your hair, scream, yell, throw your books out the window, or head on over to the bar ... think twice and remember that there is a place where you can get your science questions answered and all your scientific needs fulfilled.



The Science Center at Herman 215

Why give yourself bodily harm because you don't understand something that specialized tutors can help you with?

So, where is this helpful place, anyway? It's in Herman Hall, 215. (On the second floor of Herman, all the way at the end.)

So, don't delay, and head on over.

I mean, do you really want these tutors to sit there with nothing better to do when you can go there and ask them important questions?

What are you waiting for? To get your exams back and find out maybe you should have asked that question?

Don't make that mistake!

Remember: Herman Hall 215 – science questions answered!

Natalia Pisarcik

LETTERS, from previous page

be expelled from it? Why take an honors class? How many students are in the program?

These are some of the questions that need to be asked, and the answers reported.

I've spoken with Dr. Pelosi and a student interviewee and only a small portion of the original interview dealt with elitism.

If all the students interviewed wanted to remain anonymous, how could they be accused of being full of themselves and elitist?

Some students moan when anything is assigned and snicker when asked if they 'did the reading.' To them, college is a job factory and classes are merely the vehicle for attaining a number, a GPA; the institution exists only to sign a paper certifying that they spent four years on a college campus.

These are the students who tear out the pages of their notebooks when they discover that material won't be covered on an exam.

These people will not make it onto the 'varsity' team of academics, but it doesn't really sound like they want to be there anyway.

Maybe we could decide if we knew about the program.

"Gebe"

Editor's note: Although The Westerner *has not published an overview of the Honors Program this semester, the program was detailed in the January 16 and April 30 issues last semester.*

Do you have an opinion about an article you read in *The Westerner*?

Do you have comments, observations, criticisms, or praise for the College?

Do you have thoughts about issues that extend beyond the College community?

Send your letters or editorials to the student publications office, or submit them via e-mail to westedit@hotmail.com!

Midnight Madness

Clash of the Classes

Basketball with the HARLEM ROCKETS

Sox Feet Tug-o-War

Music & Light Show
12:30 am Breakfast Buffet

1st 300 people get a FREE T-Shirt
Door Prizes!!!

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Doors Open @ 8:30

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Research in Europe

TJS Returns after Working on Dissertation

by Craig Nakashian
Contributing Writer

During the 1997-98 academic year, Western New England College saw the sudden departure of a popular member of the History department: Professor Theodore Johnson-South.

Professor Johnson-South, a medieval English history specialist, embarked upon a one-year sabbatical to continue his research into the colorful life of Saint Cuthbert.

An early Anglo-Saxon saint, St. Cuthbert's life was the focus of Professor Johnson-South's doctoral dissertation. The sabbatical gave him an opportunity to further his research and to attempt the difficult job of transforming his doctoral dissertation into a readable book.

Professor Johnson-South spent the majority of his time at home, editing and re-translating the Historia De Sancto Cuthberto (Life of St. Cuthbert) from the original Latin into English.

To facilitate his study, he used high-quality photographs of the original, centuries-old manuscript.

However, in order to complete his research, Professor Johnson-South found it necessary to travel to England to study the actual document at Oxford University. While he was in England, Professor Johnson-South also spent time traveling through the English countryside, visiting a veritable "wish list" of castles, monasteries, and other historical sites.

Always thinking of his students, he took an immense number of photographs of the sites to use as future visual aids in his medieval history classes.

Unbeknownst to him at the time, he was about to be sought out to teach the humanities course "King Arthur's Britain." Due to the sudden departure of Professor Jimmie Thomas, Professor Johnson-South was tapped to take over the exceedingly popular medieval humanities course.

The slides and pictures he had taken in England fit perfectly into the course subject and requirements. Many of the sites that he visited are from the same time period that Arthur supposedly lived in. The pictures allow the students to visualize the circumstances of what Britain would have been like under King Arthur.

While his book concerning St. Cuthbert is not quite complete as of yet, Professor Johnson-South considers his sabbatical a great success. His main objective was to re-translate the difficult Historia De Sancto Cuthberto, which he did.

Additionally, his research in England is providing his students with a much better understanding of a difficult and confusing time period.

Professor Johnson-South outside the Durham Cathedral

Patty Griffin Releases "Flaming" CD

(From A&M Records)

Forget everything you think you know about Patty Griffin, either as a songwriter, singer or performer. With the release of *Flaming Red*, her second album for A&M Records, you are about to really hear her for the first time.

Unlike her 1996 debut recording, the sparse, universally acclaimed *Living With Ghosts* — which was actually a collection of Griffin's song demos which featured her accompanied only by her acoustic guitar — *Flaming Red* is an album chock full of big guitars, drums, keyboards, percussion, and her stunning, evocative voice.

On *Flaming Red*, Griffin indulges the restless whimsy and fantasy of her wildly divergent tastes in music, showcasing 13 new songs in many settings.

There are some ballads, such as "Goodbye" and "Big Daddy," but there are plenty of rock and roll tunes ("Change," "Wiggley Fingers") and pop tunes ("Blue Sky" and the lead single "One Big Love") that extend her aesthetic reach and prove that, as an artist, she can accomplish anything she sets out to do.

"I just tried to give myself permission to do things that I love to do. I am trying to be myself here, and that happens to be a lot of different things. I don't want to be led around by classifications as what I can and can't do. I'm not a kid, and I want to indulge everything, even confusion," said Griffin.

Griffin is originally from Old Town, Maine, just outside of Bangor.

"They make canoes there," she says.

The youngest of the family, tagging behind her three brothers and three sisters, she followed her mother around as she did housework, listening to her sing.

"My mom is an amazing singer. People turn around in church to tell her so, and my grandmother's family used to sing on the their porch at night, watch the sun go down and harmonize, so I guess it's in my blood."

Produced by Jay Joyce, who also provides most of the album's stunning guitar work, *Flaming Red* also features one of the greatest drummers around in the venerable Kenny Aronoff.

"Jay and a lot of the other musicians on this record seem to have as diverse tastes musically as I do," she explained.

The ensemble provides Griffin with the support she deserves in delivering an album which will undoubtedly establish her as an artist of rare merit.

The songs on *Flaming Red* range from raw, primal rockers like the title track, a song based on the famed fairy tale of the Red Shoes, to shimmering pop songs such as "Christina," based on the troubled life of Christina Onassis.

The pieces are all of a whole and move in directions to give the album a distinct sound, that, as wildly divergent as it is from Griffin's debut outing, is the first real taste listeners will get of her expansive and passionate musical vision and of her singular interpretive abilities as a singer.

"There are a few songs from the archives here as well as some brand new stuff. These songs just ended up working well together. I didn't think about what I wanted to say. The music had its own life."

And whether Griffin is rocking out while revealing the ironies of desire as she does on "Wiggley Fingers," or exploding spiritual myths as she does on the atmospheric, dreamily textured "Mary," she successfully evades all attempts at getting pigeonholed.

And lest anyone wonder if the emotion in her delivery that sets her apart from other singers has at all been tamed, one listen to the simply arranged and deeply moving "Go Now" should dispel those notions.

If anything, because of the breadth of this project, Griffin has reached new levels of maturity and depth as a singer. "What we did, Jay and I, was to give all of these songs of mine new lives, and I'm at home in their arrangements. They aren't painted over me and I'm not propped up on top of them," she said.

Flaming Red is not only a record that challenges and amazes as a singular work, but one that makes *Living With Ghosts* even more fascinating than the first time.

It provides the rare chance to glimpse back at an artist's rawest, single-take demo beginnings — the pure songwriting essence that has metamorphosed into the broader vision she delivers on her first real studio outing, *Flaming Red*.

Quick Takes: Cd Reviews

by Josh Shear
Ed/Op Editor

Fresh off his European tour with Creedence Clearwater Revisited, Robbie Baier landed in the studio late last year and recently a flaming hot debut CD popped out. *Soul Tube*, released on the independent label of the same name, starts out with the bass-laden "Seriously," which shows off Robbie's multi-instrumental abilities, as well as his brilliant bass guitar work.

The album then winds its way through a couple of solid tracks before arriving at "Whiskey Whiskey," which has Robbie's voice wringing every drop of passion out of his body.

While the rest of the album doesn't quite match "Whiskey Whiskey," there is not a bad song

on the disc, and the North Adams-based singer/songwriter is bound to cause a major uprising in the local music scene. Look for Robbie on the web at www.soultube.com.

Yeah, I know you're getting sick of me writing about the Nields. But the band's new album, *Play*, has something different about it, and it's not just the lack of a Dar Williams guest vocal.

Play, released on Zoe Records (a subsidiary of Rounder Records and the Mercury Group), has many songs that are radio-playable, from the album-opening "Easy People"

and on through "Last Kisses," "Friday at the Circle K," and "Snowman."

Also different about the album is the linear notes, which include quotes from Woody Guthrie and Friedrich Schiller, along with a passage by Helen M. Luke. The notes are also set up as a script for a play, with acts, scenes, sets, narration, a cast, and even an intermission, which is "Nugehtfotra," the logical afterthought of "Art of the Gun."

Even if you can't just take my word on the band, go catch them at the Iron Horse October 24 and 25. The Maggies will be opening the two shows Saturday night, and Ben Demerath, who appears on the records, will be opening Sunday.

For several months now, the music world has been raving about Sinead Lohan.

Now you can, too.

Her debut album, *No Mermaid*, is in stores, and it is just short of amazing. Starting with the title track, the singer's sweet, brogue-spangled voice awards the listener with an intimate look into her consciousness. The album then grabs the listener by the wrist and says, "Stay with Me."

Hailing from Cork in southern Ireland, Sinead says she writes about water a lot because traveling so much reminds her of what she's missing at home.

While most of the album is merely as amazing as the lead single "No Mermaid," Sinead outdoes herself with the simple but spellbinding ballad "Out of the Woods."

At 26 years old, Sinead has been playing guitar for only eight years; in fact, her first gig in Ireland came only three months into her songwriting career. If *No Mermaid* is any indication of what is to come, that career is going to be long and splendid.

If I were Jim Infantino, I'd have a big ego, too. Jim's Big Ego's new album, *Don't Get Smart*, is wonderful.

The trio, consisting of Infantino on vocals and guitar, Dylan Callahan on drums and Kurt Uenala on bass, has had a major influence on the New England folk scene with its quirky spoken-word stylings and flat-out groovy rhythms.

On the latest release, the band puts down, in studio format, some of the songs its fans have loved for several years, most notably "This Message," "Ahead of the Curve," and "Big Whoop."

Also included is Jim's infamous take on the Simon & Garfunkel classic, "The 59th Street Bridge Song (Feelin' Groovy)," even if he does only make use of the subtitle.

The only tune that is notably absent is the legendary "Bite Me (Hard)," although songs like "Punk Junkies from New York," "I Like to Watch," and "Ugly People" more than make up for its absence.

Jim's Big Ego manages to corral several guest artists on the album, most notably David Nields, David Wilcox, and Nance Petit.

Infantino is really the mastermind behind the whole thing. He laid out the liner notes, drew all the pictures, took most of the photos, wrote just about all the songs, arranged the ones he didn't write, and even programmed the CD-ROM enhancement.

The album is out on Eastern Front Records, but if a major label doesn't pick the band up after this one, fans of Jim's Big Ego will be able to go see the band in $5.00 clubs forever, which is absolutely okay with me.

Coming to the People's Place...

Tuesday, October 20th
from 8 - 10
in the People's Place

OPEN MIC
COFFEE HOUSE

Come Perform!!

read poetry or short stories!
play music or sing!
come act or just improvise!

come and be entertained...
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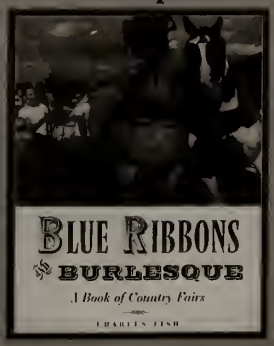
express yourself

Wednesday, October 21st
The People's Place
4:00 pm



Slide Show Presentation with excerpts read by Professor Charles Fish

International Learning Experiences Available

Why Study Abroad?

Study abroad will enhance your career opportunities and graduate school qualifications.

It will increase your understanding of other cultures in the global marketplace.

It will improve your foreign language skills.

You'll learn as much about yourself as you will about your host nation.

Are There Academic Requirements?

No special GPA is required, and any student can participate as long as he or she is in good academic standing.

What About Costs?

Besides air fares, the costs are usually equivalent to that of Western New England College.

Do I Need to Know a Second Language?

Classes are often taught in English with additional courses in the language of the host country. Some Study Abroad programs, of course, are specifically designed to enable students to improve their foreign language skills.

Where Will I Live?

A variety of housing options are available, ranging from residences and apartments to living with families.

What About Credit?

Credit you receive while studying abroad is fully transferable and counts toward your degree from Western New England College.

What Are My Choices?

The College now has study abroad agreements with a number of institutions and organizations.

Regent's College

Regent's College has a population of 750 students and offers a full range of undergraduate courses with majors in business, international relations, management, international business, and psychology. Internships are available at sites such as CNN News, the Museum of London, and constituency offices of Parliament as well as at galleries, therapy centers, lobbying organizations, and archives.

Richmond College

Richmond College, an institution of 1,100 students in two London locations, also offers a complete undergraduate curriculum. The college's majors include anthropology/sociology, art history, business administration, British studies, communications, computing, economics, environmental studies, history, international business, internaitonal relations, literature, mathematical science, political science, psychology, systems engineering and management, and theater arts. Internships are available at such sites as the Institue of Economic Affairs, CNN News, Merril Lynch, Chancarel Publishing and Poole Edwards. Richmond also offers semesters at its Study Centers in Italy and Japan.

The Alliance Française

The Alliance Française is an institute for the promotion of French language and culture, and it offers courses at various levels in French, specialized French, and teacher training. Certificates and diplomas are issued by the French government. Especially significant are the programs for Students who want to teach French and the French-for-Business programs which train people for general business, the hotel industry, and administrative work.

Accent

Accent functions as an international education organization that creates study abroad programs tailored to the needs of institutions and individual groups of students. It has offices in Florence, London, and Stratford-upon-Avon as well as Paris. The programs range from survey courses in arts and humanities to specialized programs for architecture, fine arts, engineering, international business, and foreign languages. The programs are offered through the Sorbonne or to other universities, and include short courses that explore French chateaux, the gardens of Paris, architecture, art and music.

The World Capitals Program of American University

The World Capitals Program of American University is another way to have a study abroad experience. When students participate in the program, their faculty consists of professors from American University and from another university in the chosen city. The classroom education is supplemented with seminars and internships with key people in government, business, journalism, and the arts, as well as field trips to sites of cultural and historical significance.

The list of cities includes Beijing, Hong Kong, Berlin, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Copenhagen, London, Madrid, Moscow, Prague, Rome, and Santiago. Programs include language study in each city and take advantage of the opportunities in each locale, such as international business (Hong Kong, Copenhagen, and Paris), film studies (Prague and Rome), The European Union (Brussels, London, and Paris), and political science (Berlin, Brussels, Buenos Aires, London, Madrid, Moscow, Prague, and Santiago).

Can I Study Abroad at Other Locations?

Arrangements can be made for students at colleges throughout the world. Pick a nation where you want to live, work, and learn, and the College will help facilitate your international learning experience. Special opportunities exist for study in Italy and in Mexico.

How Do I Apply?

The Study Abroad Advisor in the Office of Arts and Sciences in Herman Hall can give you all the details and get you started on the educational opportunity of a lifetime. Apply early as these programs have limited enrollment. For more information, call 413-782-1279.

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Cost of Course: $1975 [for 3 credits]
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Cost includes tuition, airfare, ground transport, food, lodging [double occupancy], and entry fees to sites and museums.

Size of Group: The class is capped at 6. Enroll early. **

Last day for paid non-refundable Deposit of $500 : October 15, 1998

Direct further questions to: Dr. Richard Luxton Tel: 413 782 1793

**Next time offered: May 17-28, 1999 - Contact Dr. Luxton

What Do You Mean, You Don't Watch Baseball?

by Devid Weinberg
Sports Editor

So, are you an anti-baseball fan who would never watch more than one inning because there is just not enough excitement in the game? Well, if you had a heart beat for at least part of the most recent 162-game baseball schedule, you would be aware that the 1998 baseball season was anything but monotonous.

First baseman Mark McGwire (MAC) of the St. Louis Cardinals set an all-time single-season record with 70 home runs. McGwire was followed in the home run barrage by Chicago Cubs outfielder Sammy Sosa, who hit 66 out of the ball park.

The New York Yankees devoured their competition and had the best record in baseball, winning an uncontested 114 games. The San Francisco Giants and the Chicago Cubs played the first one game playoff for a wildcard position since 1980. Cal Ripken, Jr. of the Baltimore Orioles made history by sitting out his first game after playing an unbelievable 2,632 consecutive games.

Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa captivated the baseball world by surpassing a 37 year-old record. In 1961, New York Yankee Roger Maris hit 61 homers in one season. That record lasted until this year, when Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa overcame Maris' historical feat.

During the race to defeat the 1961 home run mark, almost every McGwire and Sosa at bat was shown live on television, keeping viewers glued to their television sets. Although both players beat the record, McGwire has been credited with actually beating Maris' record since he did it first. Nonetheless, this accomplishment by two superb athletes is very much recognized.

The New York Yankees won the division before the baseball season started, losing a mere 48 games out of a 162 game schedule. The Bronx Bombers do not have one true super-star, but 10 players had home runs in multiple digits.

The Yanks were so successful this year that they surpassed their own 1927 best record when they won their 111th game. New York came up a mere two wins short of beating the all-time major league record of 116 wins in a season, which is held by the 1906 Chicago Cubs.

Baseball history was made when for only the second time, a one game wildcard playoff was played. The game was a battle between the San Francisco Giants and the Chicago Cubs. The Cubs won the game 5-3, enabling them to advance to the first round of the National League Playoffs.

Baltimore Orioles legend Cal Ripken, Jr. stunned the baseball world when he sat out his first game after playing a remarkable 2,632 games in a row.

If this truly historic baseball season has not convinced you that baseball is still worthy of being our national pastime, then nothing will!

It's Crop Walk Time Again!

The Crop Walk is a community hunger appeal sponsored by Church World Service — an interfaith organization which seeks to relieve hunger and poverty. The benefit assists with.

- grass roots development initiatives
- helping families overcome poverty
- support of food banks, pantries, and other hunger-fighting programs

Registration Information

When: Sunday, October 18, 1998
Register: 12:30 p.m.
Walk: 1:00 p.m.
Site: Trinity United Methodist Church
Summer Ave. Springfield

Sponsor sheets are available in the Campus Ministry Office

Golden Bears Win Homecoming Game

HOMECOMING, from page 1

WNEC tradition.

The following humid afternoon showcased the annual Western New England College homecoming football game.

With great pride, the Golden Bears football team gave WNEC a winner. It was an exciting game and the fans, both undergraduates and alumni, seemed to enjoy themselves — especially the boo-crew on the Windham Hall hill.

During the halftime, awards were given out and sports numbers for certain sports were retired. Also, alumni and undergraduates sang the college's alma mater to the fans.

That brought up a great question amongst the fans: what is WNEC's alma mater, anyway?

All in all it was a great weekend for the alumni and the students of Western New England College. Many of the activities planned appeared successful and many people appeared to enjoy themselves.

One only hopes it will continue next year.

Conuel Adjusts to Quarterback Position

Student Athlete is Hopeful for Coming Season

by Ryen O'Connor
Staff Writer

Western New England College has a new look on this year's football team. This I-1 football team is led by junior QB Steve Conuel.

Conuel, originally from Pittsfield, Massachusetts, played football for Taconic High School.

Although this is the first year that Conuel has started as a college Quarterback, he has been playing QB for about six years. He transferred to WNEC last year, after attending Sacred Heart his freshman year.

In the beginning of this season, the quarterback position was still up in the air.

Last year's QB John Paul Mancuso transferred, leaving an open position for Conuel. He thinks that this year's team, on paper, is one of the best offensive and defensive teams in the league.

WNEC's first opponent was Westfield State. Coming into the game, Conuel thought that WNEC was too confident, and as a result lost by a mere two points.

One game that the Golden Bears will have to prepare for is against Salve Regina College.

The team has not had much success against Salve, but Conuel believes that this year's team has the potential to finally upset its long-term opponent. Conuel said, "It really feels good to get my first college win under my belt. I had a lot of pressure on me this year."

In the first game, WNEC ran the ball to perfection, and Conuel said that it is a big relief to have a great running back like Andy Kaneris.

The team won the second game in the air — Conuel has thrown four touchdowns in two games.

He said that he can't wait for a time when both the running game and the passing game click together. Once that happens, the defense will be thrown off, and the Golden Bears could put up some huge numbers.

Conuel's favorite receiver is senior captain Mike Roach. Conuel mentioned, "I basically look for whomever breaks open, but I usually can rely on Roach being in the end zone. He has good hands and I trust him. Junior Jim McDonough is also one of my go-to guys in third down conversions."

The coaches for WNEC had high expectations for Conuel.

Although Steve only made two appearances last season, the coaches knew what he was capable of doing.

Conuel played football for Coach Mattello at Taconic high school, and now both are here at WNEC.

Conuel said that "having played for coach Mattello in high school has made it a lot easier for me to adjust to the system here."

Even though Mattello is the defensive coach here at WNEC, Conuel looks up to Mattello as a father figure.

When asked what he was looking forward to most this season, Steve said, "Getting this football program back to a winning season, which has not happened in the last couple of years. The fans are extremely supportive making the game a lot more exciting."

Golden Bear Classifieds

Resumés

Professionally done and reasonably priced.

Call:

783-1843

Help Wanted

The Westerner is looking to fill staff positions for the 1998-99 school year. Please inquire at Student Publications Office or call Wayne Barr at 782-1580. Assistant Editor, A&E, Treasurer available. Comp skills a plus.

For Sale

'92 Suzuki DR350S. Dual purpose, 2600 miles, SuperTrapp exhaust, jet kit, Progressive suspension, many extras. Prof. maintained. Asking $2100. Call Scott, 739-7905.

Book Wanted

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Now looking for submissions to *The Review of Art & Literature.* Call 782-1581 for more information.

Club Reminder

Club photos for yearbook, Tuesday 10/20, 12:30- 2:00, Wednesday 10/21, 6:30- 9:00 in S100, Sign up with Celia

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THE WESTERNER

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ASK SANDY & RIZZO p. 5

LIVING/ARTS p 8

SPORTS

Students Concerned about Acquaintance Rape

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

Since the news of an alleged incident of sexual assault hit the public at WNEC, there has been talk and speculation on the specifics.

Public Safety sent a letter to all Western New England College students with on-campus mailboxes, but it was vague regarding the incident itself.

On October 16, the short messge was mailed out by the Public Safety Office, which said, "In compliance with (the Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990), we hereby inform you of an incident reported of alledged sexual misconduct between two students who were acquaintances.

The alledged incident took place in one of our residence halls."

According to Springfield Union News on October 7, the incident led to charges on two counts of rape.

The article in the Union News, which came out about nine days before Public Safety notified the college community of the incident, said that the 20-year-old WNEC student is scheduled to reappear in front of the District Court on November 9.

His October 5 arraignment left him with a $5,000 bail and two counts of raping an 18-year-old in his dormitory room at Windham Hall.

Chief Gary Barnes, Director of Public Safety, said that this was definitely a case of acquaintance rape.

This type of incident, he continued, is usually the result of a breakdown in communication be-

See RAPE, page 2

Windham Hall, where the alleged incident of sexual assault took place

Up With People Comes to WNEC

by James Russell
Contributing Writer

If you've seen a mummy handing out fliers in the campus center, or a balloon-covered creature run across the court at Midnight Madness, you have seen some of the crazy things done by the five international young people currently living on the WNEC campus.

Up With People (or UWP) is a worldwide organization committed to spreading global understanding around the world through inter-cultural education, community service, and musical performances, and to create links of friendship between diverse people.

Founded in the late sixties, UWP has spread into five casts touring the world, and over 16,500 people have volunteered a year of their time to spread UWP's message. During that year, UWP participants perform in over 60 cities on at least two continents, performing community service and showing that hundreds of young people of different religions, ethnicities and backgrounds can travel together and have a wonderful time.

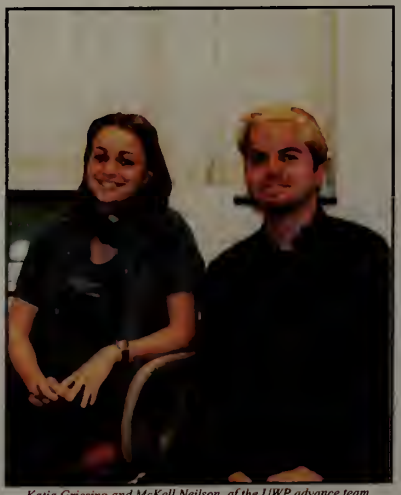
Smaller advance teams travel to performance cities ahead of the larger group to serve the community and to promote the coming performance. The team posts creative signs and gets involved with education among the hosting student group.

Then the whole company arrives. One hundred and fifty people show up from all around the globe to put on one incredible performance. On November 14, they are coming to WNEC.

Up With People's blockbuster new show, "Roads," is a Broadway show and rock concert in one. It mixes all kinds of musical, acting, and dance styles into one dynamic, house-rocking performance.

Telling the story of a community tom apart by hate and how it rebuilds, "Roads" has something for everyone: music of all kinds, from hip-hop to ska and from rock to world beat, songs in many

See PEOPLE, page 4



Katja Griesing and McKell Neilson, af the UWP advance team

Public Safety Cracks Down on Underage Drinking

by Dave Roebuck
Contributing Writer

The Department of Public Safety officers are making an impact on underage drinking on the campus of Western New England College. From these efforts, many changes are taking place this year.

Starting this fall, Public Safety and its officers have been enforcing the underage drinking laws of Massachusetts more strictly. There are many reasons for the stricter patrolling of officers, the main one being the increase of the student population.

With the growing number of students enrolled at WNEC, the officers have realized the dangers of underage drinking and are aiming to cut down on the number of cases this problem holds.

"Underage drinking occurs on all campuses and there's no way of completely stopping it. We have started more aggressive patrol this year to help stop kids who are under the age of 21 from drinking," said Richard Hooper, Public Safety Sergeant.

"This has already greatly reduced many problems that happened last year and has added to more disciplinary action to students this year."

The problems that occur from underage drinking include damage to property in residence halls and homes located close to the campus.

Since most of the students do not have a lot of experience with alcohol consumption, most are not "responsible" drinkers.

Students walking home from off-campus parties last year led to several complaints from neighbors, and many damage fines to student residence halls. This is the main reason for the stricter patrolling.

"There are a lot of problems we wouldn't have to deal with if everyone would drink responsibly," said Hooper.

The Department of Public Safety has the power to arrest underage students who are in possession of alcohol or acting disorderly in public. Most situations, however, get reported to residence life and left for them to handle.

Usually, an alcohol meeting is the consequence for the first offense.

Another big issue, especially for students at WNEC, is driving. Since WNEC allows all students to have their own vehicles on campus, drunk driving can be a big problem. So far, WNEC and its students have been fortunate to not have any major automobile accidents.

However, there have been a few arrests due to driving under the influence.

"Alcohol is the biggest substance problem on this campus. It's our job to enforce the law and make sure everything runs smoothly," said Hooper. "We're just doing our job."

Student Disability Office Accommodates More Students

by Beth Tsilibocos
Contributing Writer

The number of students served by the Student Disability Office at Western New England College tripled this year, according to its director, Bonnie Alpert.

Last year, there was little for the Office of Disabilities at WNEC to do. With a minimum of fifty students, there was little money coming into the office.

The addition of new students has moved the Office to prepare for up-coming freshmen.

"The help we provide is an asset for students with disabilities," said Alpert.

The office provides students with tutors for all subjects. These tutors include certified teachers and experts in the disabilities field.

Another service provided by the office are the disability coaches. This coaching service is a first-time service for the disabilities office. It encourages and guides students to learn about the "basics" that concern college life.

Some professors on campus have said that freshmen are not given direction in high school about how to hope with the pressures that are a part of everyday life in college. A student with a learning disability feels this even more strongly than the average student.

Some areas that are covered by both tutors and coaches are how to effectively write papers, how to read college textbooks, and most importantly, how to prepare for exams.

Coaches also focus on how to manage study time. "This program has been a real success with students," said Jennifer Hastings.

Hastings has been with the disabilities office for two years and is a first-time coach. "Coaching really helps them get on their feet," she said.

Existing services in the Disabilities Office include the books-on-tape and extended time for exams. The books-on-tape program has been running for a year now, and is a major success with students who have a difficult time reading from text books.

The disability attached with this reading difficulty is dyslexia, which causes an individual to see words in odd formation. The books-on-tape, however, help the student listen and read along with the text, and therefore understand

See OFFICE, page 4

RAPE, from page 1

tween the two parties.

If a situation like this is not dealt with properly, Barnes said, you will end up with two victims — it will effect both parties emotionally and practically.

The student body seems to have mixed feelings about the issue. Most were willing to give their opinion, although they wished to remain anonymous.

For the most part WNEC students feel safe on campus. Yet some feel that seeing a few more officers wouldn't hurt.

Barnes agreed with them, and in fact there is a program in the works that accomplish just that. Public Safety is looking to do a sort of community policing; each officer is assigned a dorm or a class building, and each gets to know the people in that building better.

This will make their presence more prevalent, as well as make it easier for people to deal with Public Safety.

With community policing, "the officers feel like ... they're part of a certain group." Chief Barnes said. If a problem was to arise, "I expect them to go out and deal with it directly."

Lisa Zacharie, a junior, said that although the security on campus seems adequate during the day, it is lacking at night.

"At night, there is hardly anyone around," Zacharie said, "and . . . it scares me to know that there is no security walking the campus to safeguard me."

She is not alone; other female students said close to the same thing.

However, Zacharie also pointed out that, "even increased security cannot prevent rape from happening."

Barnes agreed with her.

Although making the Public Safety officers more visible on campus might ease the minds of most people, there is very little they can do in the event of acquaintance rape, like what happened in Windham Hall on October 4.

The Public Safety Office runs a few programs, however, which are intended to increase awareness of date rape and how to prevent it.

In one program, officers trained in dealing with rape cases go to the dorms, where they talk to both male and female students about ways to prevent different types of rape from occurring.

Another program, for women only, is the national Rape Aggression Defense System, or RAD, which teaches women how to defend themselves against a would-be rapist.

This program consists of teaching basic self-defense tactics, and provides women with an opportunity to experience what it would be like to ward off an attacker.

RAD has had trouble in the past with keeping it's participants because it does not count toward any graduation requirements.

In January, however, WNEC will add this course to the list of physical education classes in hopes that it will decrease the number of dropouts from the program.

Campus Security, meanwhile, is doing everything it can to keep the campus safe, from community policing to the programs run both in cooperation with the resident advisers and on their own.

As far as Barnes is concerned, "our first priority is the students and their well being."

Math Center Hours (in H307 unless otherwise specified)

COURSE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MATH 100	10-1, 3-8	9:30-12:30, 3-8	10-1, 3-8	9:30-11, 3-8	10-
MATH 105	1:2, 6-8 in H308	12:30-1:[illegible]	11-1	1-[illegible]	
MATH 111-112	11-1	3-6	11-1, 5-6:8	3-4	11-1
MATH 109, 1, 3, 124	10-11, 2-8	9:30-12:30, 6-8	10-1, 3-5:30	9:30-11, 3-8	10-11
MATH 141, 1[illegible], 134	10-11, 2-8	9:30-12:30, 6-8	10-1	9:30-11, 4-8	10-11
MATH 207	2-3		5:30-8 in H 308	—	
MATH 2, 5, 261	10-11, 6-8, 3:30-4:30	10-11	9:30-11, 4-8	10-11	
MATH 236	10-11	11-12:30, 6-8	10-11	4-8	10-11

Environmental Science Professor Discusses Work

by Natalia Pisarcik
Staff Writer

It was around four years ago that Western New England College decided to incorporate an Environmental Science program into its degree offerings.

This upcoming May (1999) will be the first year in the history of the college to have Environmental Science degrees handed out to the graduating seniors enrolled in the program. And it was three years after the Environmental Science program was installed that the college finally hired its first (and only) Environmental Science professor.

Rebecca Wright is this first official professor of the program, and recently she was able to sit down and discuss her past, her hobbies, and her advice for students.

Wright is a Professor of Environmental Science, but her journey to this setting was a different one. She obtained her Bachelor's degree from Colgate University in Japanese Language and Asian Studies, slightly different from the environment and the subject of environmental sciences.

She decided to change in the middle of her college career because she was looking for an area dealing with policy in science, and the outdoors and the environment had always been interesting to her.

After a few years of catching up with the required science courses she needed, she attended the graduate school George Mason. There, she acquired her Ph.D. in Environmental Biology/Public Policy.

It was there also that she was able to do extensive research in the subject of wetlands. During her time at George Mason, she was able to work with a professor who received a federal grant to look at and study wetland soils.

The reason for this project was to see how wetland soils hold on to fertilizers from agricultural runoff.

This was an important study, since fertilizers from agricultural runoff are main factors in today's water pollution problems.

This research allowed her to gain the title of 'Wetlands Soil Scientist.' After graduation and before entering the WNEC spotlight, she worked for the park service. There, she spent her days looking at how to control invasive plants (plants not native to the area).

Also, she worked to write newsletters to businesses telling them how to be more environmentally friendly.

Along with her various environmental backgrounds, her hobbies also show her love for the outdoors.

In her spare time, she enjoys bicycling, hiking, and botanizing (hunting for wild flowers). So far she has nothing but good things to say about the WNEC community.

The staff and students have been extremely friendly and helpful to her, which she appreciates.

She is enjoying her job (which consists of teaching General Biology, Intro to Environmental Science, and Legal Aspects of the Environment), and encourages all students, no matter who they are, to be open minded.

Professor Rebecca Wright

Her words of wisdom to the campus are to "always be open to the fact that you can like science."

With this in mind, she plans to bring her knowledge and past experiences to her students to help and to educate them.

Students to Benefit From Renovations

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer

In the past year many changes have been made to the WNEC campus, namely in the Campus Center.

The people at Student Activities understand that returning students may be confused about renovations to the Peoples Place.

That is because students were led to believe last semester that the Peoples Place was being transformed into a "Sports Bar".

The "Sports Bar" was supposed to be decorated with large photographs of WNEC varsity athletes and huge televisions. While the televisions remain, the pictures have disappeared and the room has been redecorated.

According to Maureen Keizer, Director of Student Activities, the "People's Place Committee" (a committee of staff and students) decided a Sports Bar would not serve the purposes of most of the student community.

"The more we talked about it", Ms. Keizer said, "the more limited we felt by the idea of a Sports Bar." So far the newly renovated People's Place has served its purpose as a "versatile" room.

This year alone the People's Place hosted a book reading with Professor Charles Fish, an "Open Mic" sponsored by The Review of Art and Literature, and a variety of sports events, such as parties for the World Series and Monday Night Football.

At first the faculty did not respond well to the renovations to the People's Place since they preferred the old, conventional room.

According to Ms. Keizer, the facuity is still getting used to the new room, since they still prefer the old "dining room".

Another area of concern in the Campus Center is the Game Room. Last semester students were informed that a Cyber Cafe would be opening in a corner of the Game Room.

This Cyber Cafe was intended to be a place where students could check their email and "surf the Internet" in the Campus Center. It was also meant to be an area where clubs and organizations could print out fliers and posters.

As of October 30, 1998, the Cyber Cafe has not been completed. According to Ms. Keizer, the opening of the Cyber Cafe has been delayed because it was one of the last areas to be rewired on campus.

However, Ms. Keizer also stated the computer wiring has been completed and the Cyber Cafe should be opening soon. The Cyber Cafe, when completed, will have six computers.

Three computers will be dedicated for clubs and organizations, while the other three will be for students to check their email. The Cafe will also have a fax machine for student organizations.

Eventually, Student Activities hopes to bring a small concession stand into the Cyber Cafe. Ms. Keizer believes the Cyber Cafe will expand usage of the game room in the college community.

Student Senate provided a large portion of the funds used to renovate the Peoples Place and build the Cyber Cafe. Rivers Gym is also a newly renovated area of concern.

Originally, the rooms used to house students this year were intended to be transformed into offices for student organizations next year.

Ms. Keizer is doubtful that this plan will become a reality. She believes the school may still need the Rivers Hall to house students next year.

Ms. Keizer is also unsure of the future of the Field House in the Rivers Gym. Right now, it seems like the gym will be used as a multipurpose room for group activities.

Minor renovations have also been made to the Snack Bar, now known as "The Rock Cafe". While working on changes to the Peoples Place the idea emerged to change the image of the Snack Bar.

The large pictures of WNEC varsity athletes that were formerly in the Peoples Place have been moved to the Snack Bar.

Also, a JukeBox has been placed in the Snack Bar so students can play music while they eat their food.

Senior Tim St. James plays a computer game at the new Cyber Cafe

THE WESTERNER

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languages, and even a martial arts presentation.

Normally you would have to pay a concert admission to get into a show like this, but it is free to WNEC undergraduates. The two shows will take place on November 14 at 7:30 p.m. and November 15 at 1:00 p.m., so be sure to get your tickets fast.

The members of the advance team are Katja Griesing, from Germany, McKell Neilson, from Canada, and Americans Jennifer Doan, Danielle Messier and Casey Carlsen.

They have been touring with UWP since July, beginning their journey in Denver.

They have been at WNEC since October 6, living in Gateway and with host families, and w ll be continuing into Canada after the WNEC shows.

Since its arrival, the team has publicized and promoted the show, given presentations to WNEC students, recruited new UWP members, and enjoyed many campus activities, such as Midnight Madness and the Monster Bash.

In the Springfield community, team members have volunteered for the Springfield AIDS project, the Ronald McDonald House, the Shriner's Hospital, and the Association for the Blind.

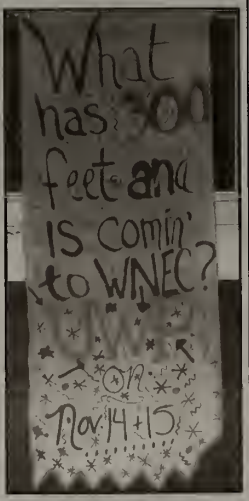
Working for UWP also counts as an internship in multiple fields. Members learn management, drama, stage direction and many other skills.

The best feature of UWP, though, is world travel.

They visit a new city every few days, and every team sees at least two continents. It's a yearlong adventure where they meet people from all over the world and make friends for life.

The team reports that the response from the WNEC community has been overwhelmingly positive, and they thank the WNEC student body for their welcome.

The UWP headquarters on campus are located in the room adjacent to Dean Zern's office in



the Campus Center. The door is open and they invite students to come by, see how they can get involved, or just say hello.

If you are interested in joining Up With People, the only requirement is that you have completed a high school education or equivalent and have the desire and ambition to help your community and the world.

Host families are still needed for the performers, so if you can provide space for a few days for one of the international performers, they would be thankful. Host families receive free tickets to the performance.

There will be two shows on November 14 and 15 in the AHLC gym. Tickets are free to WNEC undergraduates, but be sure to get them soon at Dean Zern's office because they are expected to go quickly.

OFFICE, from page 2

the words.

Extended time on exams is another great service provided for students with disabilities. The extra time helps them focus on the exam, and not the time in which it is to be completed.

Some students with learning disabilities need extended time, but they also need a quiet place to take the exam. While a class full of students taking an exam may seem like a quiet place, the slightest noise can be very distracting to a student with a disability — the shuffling of feet or the tap of a pen, for example.

At the student disabilities office, however, students are allowed to take their exams in a private, secluded room.

Some question have been asked by professors who wonder if these students really need or deserve preferential treatment. The American Disabilities Act provides students with reasonable accommodations for those who qualify.

In short, if you have documentation of a disability, the school you attend must provide you with the necessary tools in order to have a fair shot at college life.

If you have any questions, you can contact Jennifer Hastings at 782-1257, or at Deliso Hall in room G-05.

THE SENATE

Grievances, Grievances

If you have a suggestion on how to improve WNEC, let Ryan Courtemanche know at X-4453. The Grievance committee of Student Senate is the megaphone for your concerns!
LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!!

TIME CAPSULE

Attention Student Body:
WNEC will be burying a time capsule at the end of the year.
If you have any pictures you would like to have in the time capsule, please give them to Mia Arrigo Box 1398. If you have any questions please call her at X4550.
Thanks for all your help!

Legislative Committee

Anyone interested in forming a new club or organization on campus should contact me as soon as possible to begin forming a constitution for that club. You can reach me at the Senate office at 782-1298 or at home at 596-3235.

Thank You,

Craig Nakashian
Legislative Chairperson

We would like to thank all those people who helped out with Midnight Madness and made it a huge success! Very special thanks to Dean Zern, Dr. Walker, and Celia Norcross for all their time and effort.

ATTENTION Students, Students, Staff and Faculty!!

The Sophomore class will be sponsoring its second annual HOLIDAY RAFFLE!!!
Tickets will be available from December 7th to December 11th.
It will be $1 for one ticket or 6 tickets for $5. The drawing will be held on December 11th
at the Fridays. Prizes are as follows:
1st place $100 gift certificate to the Holyoke Mall
2nd place $50
3rd place $50
We hope that you all participate!
-The Sophomore Class

Semi-Formal

November 20, 1998
The Oaks Agawam, MA
Dinner and Dancing 6:30-Midnight
6:30-8:30 check-in
Doors will be closed at 8:30
Transportation provided to and from WNEC
Buses are scheduled to leave the back of the Campus Center at 6:20 and 6:45
They are scheduled to leave the Oaks at 11:50 and 12:10
Tickets go on sale Nov. 2-13
From 11-2 CC Mall area
$20 each; 2 per ID
Choice of Chicken or Pasta Primavera
Sign-ups for seating can only be completed at the ticket table
Hope to see you there!

Advice Column

Ask Sandy & Rizzo ...

(Sandy and Rizzo are The Westerner's advice columnists. It may not be good, but it's definitely advice.)

I don't think my roommate uses soap when she showers. I accidentally knocked over her soap dish last week and found out there was no soap in it. Also, her shampoo has not moved for the past two weeks. Should I confront her?

— In Search for a Smell

Maybe the soap dish was empty because she just ran out and didn't replace the bar yet. And maybe it just looks like her shampoo hasn't moved in the past two weeks because she puts it in the same place every day.

Regardless, if she is at least stepping into the shower once in a while then she is somewhat cleaning herself. You really should not confront her unless she starts smelling bad. If I were you, I would just shrug it off as one of those roommate things.

— Sandy

Yessiree, I agree with Sandy. If she doesn't smell, then what the hell! Don't bother her about it. That is like her saying to you 'Why don't you wear underwear?' because she did not see any in your laundry basket. It is not something you should really even notice, never mind that it is none of your business.

Maybe she is allergic to soap. All soap does is dry out your skin anyway. A lot of people just use a wet face cloth and some other type of cleanser. I think that you have some issues to notice that her shampoo has not moved in two weeks. But if she does start smelling, you still don't really want to necessarily SAY anything. Just put some soap in her soap dish for her.

*** Rizzo*

My roommate watches too much television. She has already permanently damaged the couch (from sitting) and she throws temper tantrums when she can't watch her programs. Save me, Sandy and Rizzo, before I throw my TV out the window.

— Against Couch Potatoes in Gateway

Is her viewing getting in the way of your everyday life? If it is, then you should definitely confront her. Tell her that you can not concentrate on your homework when the TV is on. Maybe you could schedule "TV" time and "NO TV" time so that you both get what you want. The bottom line is this: you both paid the same amount of money to live in Gateway so you should both feel comfortable and happy in that room.

— Sandy

So it sounds like the television is yours — then do it! Throw it out the window! It will be fantastic. Make sure you do it during one of her favorite shows. You should definitely prepare beforehand though. Get a really long extension cord so that the TV will still be on as it hits the ground! The sparks sure will fly! You might also want to advertise the event. Tell all your friends to be outside for the 'explosion'! Just be sure no one get physically hurt (your roomie will probably be emotionally damaged for sure) and that you give me a ring so that I can take video footage of it!

*** Rizzo*

I can't stand my boyfriend's roommate. He drives me up the wall. Every time I go over there, he starts fights with me. I love visiting my boyfriend, but not when his roommate is there. What should I do?

— Simply Annoyed

You shouldn't let the roommate get in the way of you seeing your boyfriend. If you really enjoy visiting your boyfriend, just go over there and deal with the roommate. Or, invite your boyfriend to your room where you don't have to deal with the annoying roomie. Don't let him get in the way of your relationship; just ignore his attacks.

— Sandy

Make a pass at this jerk roommate. That is the way to do it. Since you described him as just being annoying, maybe he has the hots for you.

If you make a pass at him, then his heart will change. Of course don't let it get too far, and you may (or may not) want your man to know about this. Trust me, I think it will work. Flirting always does wonders!

*** Rizzo*

If you have a question for Sandy and Rizzo, send it to Box 1234.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

Every day, students gather in the campus center to watch Jerry Springer. Even students who don't watch the show at all are aware of its lurid content. What thought-provoking issues would most move them?

...What's Your Favorite Would-Be Springer Topic?

"If you're a 90-year-old women and dating an 18-year-old college male, then call this number now: 1-900-888-8000!"
— Paula Morehouse

"Midgets and their sexual fantasies [an actual episode]."
— Tracy Griffin

"I found my mother-in-law in bed with my husband."
— Adam Gouyer

"People who really love trees, or fun with spatulas."
— Patrick Finn

"Women who have their men dress as Bill Clinton to fulfill their sexual fantasies with cigars."
— Melissa Berg

"I'm in love with my girlfriend's teenage brother and I m 40!"
— Erica Landry

We Need an End to Domestic Terrorism — Now

What the heck is going on here? We're sanctioning Iraq for keeping military secrets because we fear a terrorist attack.

We keep sitting Benjamin Netanyahu and Yassir Arafat

Josh, Inspissated

down to try to stop the terrorist activity between Israel and Palestinians. We push for peace in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

And we're ignoring the terrorist activity happening right here on American soil.

The Earth Liberation Foundation (ELF) has claimed responsibility for burning $12 million worth of ski resort land in Vail, CO.

The premise in the act was that the ski resort was expanding onto land that is inhabited by an ever-decreasing lynx population.

Like its sister group the Animal Liberation Foundation (ALF), ELF has not only done its own cause more harm than good in one of its actions, but has set one of the world-wide standards for a terrorist organization.

Some readers might remember a few years ago when ALF released about 500 captive mink into the wild in the Berkshires.

Within five days, several hundred of the mink were found dead on local streets and highways, and another 150 or so were found dead in the woods, easy prey for predators who had spent their lives in the wild.

While ELF's action may have saved the lynx in the woods surrounding the Vail ski resort, there are now several hundred acres of land that have been rendered essentially useless for any purpose, and there are now dozens of tons of carbon dioxide in the air over southern Colorado that don't belong there.

The idea behind both ELF and ALF is that members in different parts of the country may know each other, but are to remain anonymous not only to those people in their communities who do not belong to the organizations, but also to members in other regions.

Any action may be attributed to one of the two organizations if it follows specific guidelines.

The guidelines include not physically harming a human being who is not trying to stop the action and that the action preserve some part of nature.

I fail to see the benefit of such organizations. In this country, we have the right to peaceably assemble, but I do not believe that the actions carried out by these groups fall under that right, nor do they fall under the right of freedom of expression.

When active protest and perhaps even acts of civil disobedience fail to change a situation, are there further acceptable steps? If so, what are those steps?

In the case of the mink, ALF members actually walked onto a farm and released the animals into the wild.

I can understand the motive; I even support it. I don't believe we should be raising animals just to kill them for their fur.

But these mink were animals who had grown up in a cage. They had their food brought to them, and they had their predators warded off by the people raising them. How were they going to survive in the wild with no training?

The group could have raised money to purchase the mink alive and spent time teaching the animals to survive in the wild, maybe even giving them a chance to breed so that a new generation of mink could grow up in the wild.

The group could have even taken the pens or released the animals into its own cages with the same goal in mind. Either way, no mink are killed for their fur.

And hundreds of mink are not killed by motor vehicles and predators in under a week, putting the mink population in the exact same position it would have been if the animals had died for their fur.

As for ELF, I simply don't understand how burning acres and acres of land qualifies as Earth Liberation.

Whatever the land was being used for, what could possibly excuse the incineration of so much earth?

Why are these groups allowed to exist? They create terror right under our noses, while we try to put a stop to it in other countries.

Terrorism in the U.S. does not stop there. For the past five or so years, one doctor each year is murdered in upstate New York because of a willingness to provide abortions.

This year, Dr. Barnett A. Slepian, a gynecologist who provided abortions on a case by case basis, was shot in his kitchen by a sniper.

One Friday night, Slepian returned home from synagogue, walked into his kitchen, and heard a small crash that did not fully register - it was a bullet from a high-powered rifle breaking his kitchen window just before it hit him in the heart and killed him.

Ironically, Slepian had been interviewed after the death of one of his colleagues several years ago. He was quoted as having said, "It could have been me." This time it was.

A radical anti-abortion group in the U.S. and Canada is blamed for the shooting of Slepian, and for the shootings of his colleagues in previous years.

The motto of the group is "Do anything to save the life of a child."

To add insult to injury, Slepian's family received a letter from a minister in the week following the doctor's death.

The letter told the family that "You reap what you sow," and implied that Slepian deserved to die.

It doesn't matter what your stance on abortion is. Mine changed four years ago.

Opinions do tend change as new information is gathered. But what are the grounds for murder?

Where is the line between avenging a wrongful death and murdering in cold blood?

Even if you generally consider abortion murder, are there exceptions? And if there are, did Slepian follow those exceptions?

For example, what if the only women Slepian provided abortions for were women who would have died of complications with their pregnancies long before the child could have been delivered healthy?

If the group responsible for the murders of Slepian and his former colleagues claims to be the never-heard voice of the aborted fetuses, how can the group's members know that those fetuses want to be spoken for?

What if they would have lived terrible lives if they were born?

Whatever reasons Slepian had for performing the abortions, I don't believe that even malicious motives in providing abortions could justify his murder.

Nobody deserves to die. Period.

Why has the murderer or group of murderers responsible for the deaths of these doctors been found?

When are we going to stop worrying about saving the rest of the world while we let our country be dominated by domestic terrorists?

Something needs to be done. Now.

Josh Shear

Paul Reiser, Where Have You Gone?

Those Phone Bill Blues. We've all seen the commercials, five million times. "Save on long distance calls" ... "Only 10 cents a minute!" ... "Remember to save by dialing 1-800-COLLECT" ...

Save, save, save, blah, blah, blah. Usually we mentally block out those annoying commercials, or we ask ourselves "do they sound a little too good to be true?"

But then reality sets in and you remember that you're a student at WNEC, and you have been blessed with the AT&T Acus Service system for all your phone calling needs.

Yippy skippy you say, because in our mind all those darn phone companies sound the same. But then you find out differently after you get your first phone bill.

"*Fifty cents a minute to call New Jersey!* Is someone on crack?" you yell across campus. Yeah, maybe you are calling long distance.

But then you quickly picture that *Mad About You* guy lecturing you about 10 cents a minute from anywhere, anytime.

"Hmmmm ..." you say, looking up from you bill, "why the *beep* can't I get 10 cents a minute here?"

So you start asking questions on why there is not a 10-cents-a-minute plan here. "Well, the school buys the Acus service in bulk rate," someone says to you, as if the plan was doing you a favor.

Now you find yourself in utter confusion. You can't get a 10-cents-a-minute deal because the college buys AT&T Acus in bulk rate (whatever the hell that is supposed to mean) and the only time you can actually get the damn 10-cents-a-minute deal is if you make a call at 1:00AM on a Sunday night (actually a Monday morning).

Wouldn't you think a college like this would get a 10-cents-a-minute plan for it's students?

I mean, let's stop and think for a minute ... college students, plus phone usually equals many — long distance phone calls at anytime to anywhere.

Where are you, Paul Reiser? I mean, the last time I checked I had about 10 cents left in my checking/banking account, meaning *COLLEGE STUDENTS DON'T HAVE A LOT OF MONEY!*

So wouldn't you think the logical, smart, financial way to do things would be to get a 10-cents-a-minute phone plan here? Obviously, but we're WNEC, and do we do things simple?

Come on, what are you on crack?! Who knows, maybe students should just buy pre-paid phone cards, or e-mail or write to people more.

But the fact of the matter is that the bulk rate plan appears to cost more to the students than the college believes it does.

Yes, it might seem to save the college money, but I haven't noticed a single saving on my monthly phone bill statement.

Natalie Pisarcik

Missing Some Good Old-Fashioned Optimism

Some Thoughts on Politics, Heroes, and American Cynicism

This is a true ramble, I don't have anything Earth-shattering, or terribly fascinating to say. I just was remembering how I had watched part of the burial ceremony for Officer J.J. Chestnut of the Capitol Police.

He was one of the two cops killed this past summer in the Capitol Hill shootings. His death makes me think.

He was 58 years old. He had served as a policeman for twenty of those years, and he was in the AirForce for the eighteen years preceding that.

He spent thirty-eight out of the forty years of his adult life directly in the service of this nation and its citizens.

Why?

Certainly not for the money, that's for damned sure. For the fame perhaps? Hardly. Why then would someone choose to forfeit their life for their fellow residents if they don't get something tangible out of it?

I have always been told that Americans were selfish and self-centered people. I was told that we are arrogant and close-minded, that we are racists, that we are decadent and deceitful.

Apparently Officer Chestnut and Officer Gibson, the two slain officers, were not Americans then. They showed the exact opposite of those qualities.

Well, say the cynics, most Americans are arrogant, decadent ... but obviously not all. My question would then be: "What of the thousands of people that lined the route for the motorcade, or have sent gifts or flowers to the families? What of them?"

Must have been a convention of non-Americans in town, eh?

Coincidence that all of these decent, selfless people chose to take time out of their lives to honor men who took their lives out of time for us. The cynics retort that only a tiny percentage of people came out to pay their respects.

What of the citizens that did not come out to pay their respects, by far the larger percentage of the population?

My answer is that we notice what you do in some situations, and what you don't do in others. It isn't expected of us to line the boulevard that the caskets came down, but some did.

I wasn't there, but I would have given anything to have been. If I could have, I would have. That counts for something, doesn't it?

Hopefully you are asking yourself why I am talking about this, and what this has to do with you.

Actually, I hope you aren't asking yourself that, because then you would have missed my point. I guess my point is that I have noticed an increase in negativity both on WNEC's campus, and in society at large. People seem to be missing the inherent greatness of existence, and the infinite joy that we should feel for simply being alive.

Edmund Burke once said, "All that is necessary for the triumph of evil in the world is for good men to do nothing."

I would replace evil with negative and good with positive. The premise remains the same.

Being optimistic and positive is harder than being negative and cynical. It is far easier to say "screw it", than to put the effort into trying again and possibly getting burned.

I have seen some flashes of positivity and hope as of late; at the Midnight Madness for example, and today when I sat with twenty-something others and watched the ascent of John Glenn into orbit.

It pains me to see my fellow students and citizens losing faith in society, which is mainly why I chose this seemingly odd topic to expound upon.

As an optimist I must believe that all will turn out right in the end, I just hope that everyone else realizes that as well.

Craig M. Nakashian

Are We Being Punished?

Life in Student Media is Not Easy

I'm beginning to wonder why we do it at all.

We work all week long plus weekends, live on deadlines, and for what?

For the hassles from administration, professors and students?

For the sleepless nights and the cram sessions before deadlines?

For the constant badgering and disappointments? I used to be able to ignore all of it. Now I wonder why I do it in the first place.

As with running any organization, there are the extra perks that come with the package deal: the fund-raisers, the budgets and so many others.

But they are starting to take up so much time, where does it leave room to do what the job is in the first place?

The newspaper staff will easily put in 20 hours a week trying to get the minimum of a 12 page paper out to the campus every two weeks.

The staff has yet to miss a deadline in almost a year.

The staff members of yearly publications do not get a break either. Long-term deadlines still need to be met and involve just as much work.

The publications of Western New England College are ones that the entire college community has come to expect.

We are proud of them, as we should be.

And yet, the hard work of the members of these organizations has yet to be truly recognized.

When attending a national media convention last spring, I was surprised to find that our school is one of the few that does not provide any form of compensation to the students that run the media organizations.

Some were paid in terms of money, but the rest received class credits for their work.

Why not us?

These, after all, are volunteer positions — and yet, we interview for them the same as any other job, appointed for a year long commitment.

If one were to take *The Westerner* class, one would receive one credit for attending once a week and having to write only six articles.

I can guarantee you that the volunteer newspaper staff does a hell of a lot more work than that without getting any credits.

What does it come down to? *The Westerner* is required to complete an issue every two weeks.

The Cupola is required to provide the students with a yearbook in the spring.

The Review of Art & Literature is required to print a literary magazine at the end of each academic year.

With all these expectations, did it occur to anyone what would happen if we decided just not to do it anymore?

We don't get anything in return, so what's stopping us?

Jennifer O'Brien

From the Editor: Reflections on Autumn

A friend of mine, too young to feel this way, disdains autumn, despises it, wishes instead that summer would last indefinitely. She would allow a week or two for spring, she says, but autumn brings a chill she cannot tolerate. For her the molted trees are cruel harbingers for winter, for decline, for time unclaimed, for death; the leaves beneath them are broken husks, only so many dead things on the ground.

She is not the first to feel miffed, melancholy, and morbid at this turn of season. Something about autumn, even before winter, suggests mortality. "I have been treading on leaves all day until I am autumn-tired," wrote Frost. "All summer long I thought I heard them threatening under their breath. / And when they came it seemed with a will to carry me with them to death."

The seasons as stages of life — this is one of the enduring metaphors of poetry, literature, and conventional wisdom, and not without good reason. Sometimes we see ourselves reflected in nature, or reflect nature ourselves. The luxuriance of spring, the complacency of summer, the decline of autumn, the cold suspension of winter — we see these writ in the faces we meet, in a baby's toothless squeal, in a grandfather's quiet grimace.

But autumn, at least, is more than simply decline — there is exuberance, too, abundance and luxuriance and renewal. The foliage goes from green to lime to yellow, from yellow to orange to flaming magenta. The sun fires glints of light off breezy, jagged-edged leaves, nebulous clouds absorb the colors like dense sponges. Geese congregate, squawk, renew their itinerary. It is too much, overwritten: autumn, in its early stages, is nature's mid-life crisis.

I enjoy autumn even after the leaves have fallen, though, after the excess. I do not mind the crunch of fallen leaves; I wish, in fact, that the groundskeepers at WNEC were not so diligent in clearing the brick paths that wind from the Campus Center to Emerson. I like the way the naked oaks behind The Rock seem to move as you walk past them: one slips behind other, emerges again; together they dance, as if you are the one with roots.

There is more to autumn than trees and foliage, than frigid breezes and fading grass. The constellations change. Hercules drifts away and Orion, with his stately, three-starred belt, rolls out of the eastern horizon. Frost, of course, said it better: "Throwing a leg up over our fence of mountains, / And rising on his hands, he looks in on me / Busy outdoors by lantern-light ..."

This autumn, Jupiter hangs in the sky, a dense, milky spot skulking above the horizon, too swollen to be mistaken for a star. You will see it above the Campus Center if you face the west/southwest entrances at about eight o'clock in the evening; by ten-thirty or eleven it has swung southward, perched above Sleith Hall. The moon chases it, when there is a moon. I don't know how long this will last. Like autumn, like all seasons, it too shall pass.

Our lives may or may not be cyclical; I suspect they are, but am too young to know for sure, too complacent to give it any serious thought right now. Late at night I read, study, write papers, and when I am done I fall peacefully asleep. I imagine my despondent friend, who goes writhing into the season, stays awake, meditating, her eyes fixed on branches casting shadows on the window pane.

Wayne Barr

No Phish Like Live Phish, but *Ghost* Is Close

by Shannon Plaquat
Contributing Writer

To be, or not to be? That used to be the question that one had to ask him/herself but with Phish's new album, "The Story of the Ghost", that definitely is not the question.

Unlike past Phish albums, the new album has a rich feel that incorporates many aspects such as

jams, leading vocals from all band members, and raw musical talent.

These older tunes that any "phan" would recognize are now finally put onto an album.

The only drawback is that most of the substance that drove these songs to where they are, has been cut and abbreviated.

Not to say that these songs aren't complete, but they lack the completeness most closely exemplified in "Guyute", an impressive 8-minute plus track.

This album has songs for all. From "Water in the Sky", with a bluegrass/folk feel, to "Wading in the Velvet Sea", with a near love song feel.

A good portion of the tracks do have a laid-back feel which makes it a good album to chill to, but there is the occasional upbeat track such as the single "Birds of a Feather."

So what is this album? It's an album for all, true fan or not, somewhat resembling their last album "Billy Breathes", but as a fan would probably say, better.

And what is this album lacking? The only thing that I can see missing is the filler for the rest of the disc.

Discs have a 74 minute long capacity and this disc is only around 50 minutes, so why not fill it?

Although nothing compares to a live Phish show, I give this album four stars.

Look forward to the upcoming release of this disc on vinyl.

R.E.M. Makes New Transition with *Up*

by Wayne Barr
Editor

At the risk of being deemed a musical heretic, I would assert that R.E.M. is to my generation what the Beatles were to the baby boomers The principle difference, of course, is that no one really argues about whether Michael Stipe is cuter than Mike Mills.

It is true that the Beatles were cultural icons, that they redefined rock and roll, that they were practically bigger than themselves. It is true that the same cannot be said of R.E.M. These, however, are distinctions without differences. R.E.M. is great — not merely good — because they have eluded iconoclasm and commercial popularity in a time when too much success is regarded with cynicism and suspicion, when having a song on the Top 10 suggests selling out.

Like other great bands, R.E.M.'s twenty-year history can be divided into different periods. With some exceptions, the band's early recordings, from *Murmur* to *Document*, followed in more or less the same '80's pre-alternative vein. The best part about the band, besides the fact that they were, of course, really good, was that they were never on the radio. In a remarkable time before compact disks, adolescents hoarded their cassettes, duplicated them for friends, lent them out, played them until the tape wore out. R.E.M. was the best-kept secret musical secret of the decade.

1988's *Green* changed all that: "The One I Love," the band's first hit single, and a world tour, put R.E.M. on the radio, in the arena of public consumption. The secret was out; the band's success was no longer private, but something we now had to share with disc jockeys and retailers.

The greatest stylistic deviation, then, came with 1991's *Out of Time*, which featured some of the band's most wretched musical experiments (the embarrassing rap vocals of KRS-1 on "Radio Song," for example, or the unforgivably saccharine "Shiny Happy People") and some of it's most pleasing innovations (the spoken-word lyricism of "Belong," and the exuberant arrangement of strings, piano, and saxophone on "Near Wild Heaven" — the first R.E.M. song to feature Mike Mill's pleasant, weedy voice). Die-hard fans worried that the band had sold out.

While *Automatic for the People*, *Monster*, and *New Adventures in Hi-Fi* are marked by their own musical idiosyncrasies, they more or less belong to the post-*Green* period — a collage of rock songs (*Monster*'s "Star 69"), ballads (*Automatic*'s "Nightswimming"), and for the first time in the band's career, love songs (*Monster*'s "Strange Currencies").

Anyone who has failed to notice R.E.M. has missed out on one of the few treasures of Generation X culture.

*

R.E.M.'s new CD, *Up*, is another departure, the beginning of a new period. It is their first CD without drummer Bill Berry. It is their first CD to print Stipe's often inscrutable lyrics inside the cover. It is also their quietest CD to date — even "Lotus," the noisiest track, is heavier on keyboards than on guitar or bass.

Thematically, *Up* doesn't cover a lot of unfamiliar territory, although it is decidedly more bleak than previous albums. "Suspicion" pleads for the suspension of revelation ("please don't speak / make me think / it's all too deep").

The droning, monotonous "Hope," about a terminal hospital patient looking for recovery, is ultimately hopeless: "and you're questioning the sciences / and questioning religion / and you're looking like an idiot / and you no longer care."

Distinct, pathetic, despicable characters emerge. The first-person title character of "Sad Professor" apologizes for expounding upon the too familiar "tragedies of love." Stipe, as the narrator of the haunting, bass-laden "Diminished," chants a litany of possible defenses for murder ("how do I play this? / jealous lover, self defense / protective brother, chemical / dependence ... can I charm the jury?"). A night clerk in "Daysleeper," the album's first release, falls into despondency amid the international goings-on of politics and society.

If the angst and depression seem too heavily smeared, "Why Not Smile" offers sly advice to the sad souls who populate the album; if happiness seems too much slighted, there are moments of optimism — hope, at least, is not always in vain. The quasi-Beatlesque "At Most Beautiful" is R.E.M.'s most blatant, vulnerable, sincere love song to date — no complicated wordplay or metaphor, no convoluted lyricism. "I found a way / to make you smile," Stipe sings, while Mills coos to a lilting piano and cello.

Perhaps the best thing about *Up*, however, is that it is not radio-friendly; there are no hooks, no catchy tunes, no Top-10 melodies. It is far too late for R.E.M. to return to their cult status, and one can hardly expect them to reconnect with their earlier, guitar-based sound that some fans favor. If *Up* is a harbinger of things to come, however, this new period will be great — but quietly great.

Opening Acts You Don't Want to Miss

by Josh Shaar
Ed/Op Editor

It's always great to go see your favorite bands and to be absolutely blown away by the opening acts they brought along. In the past two weeks, I had the privilege of seeing both The Nields and Moxy Fruvous and the Iron Horse, and they each brought some wonderful up-and-coming acts.

The Maggies

The Nields played three shows in two nights, and Saturday, October 24, Northampton's The Maggies opened both shows.

I'd managed to see The Maggies at the 1997 Transperformance festival, but I'd never managed to hear them do their own music. I'd been deprived.

The band showed up on stage for the 7:00 p.m. show looking a little nervous, but that didn't keep them back. They tore through a nine-song set in about a half hour, featuring some songs from their recent CD "Homesick."

The quartet began with "Back in Time," which it has never recorded, and then jumped straight into "Weatherland," which was recorded several years ago in with a different lineup.

Immediately after that, The Maggies wove their way through "A Window," which is on homesick, and the audience could tell the big-crowd jitters were gone.

The 7:00 set stayed fairly mellow, often featuring keyboardist Adrian Maggie on vocals. The 10:00 set, however, was a powerhouse of music that had the crowd on its feet and dancing.

"Be My Guest" kicked off the second set, and bassist Max Maggie's silver pants flashed through the club like lightning. The Maggies plowed through several more songs before hitting a high with "Thank God," which is on the new disc.

They didn't let that high down for the rest of the set, and the audience cheered and sang along a few songs later when the band covered the Burt Bacharach/Hal David classic "Do You Know the Way to San Jose?" They closed with "Load it Up," and would later join The Nields on stage for the Beatles' "Lovely Rita," which they did both sets.

The Maggies will return to the Iron Horse as a headlining act on December 5.

Jess Klein

If you could only have one woman sing to you for the rest of your life, what would she sound like?

Would her voice have the resounding sweetness of Joan Baez?

See ACTS, page 11

Midnight Madness a Rocking Success!

by Natalia Pisarcik
Staff Writer

It was mad! It was at midnight. It was ... *midnight madness!*

And this was the first year that this event has been held. This first annual event was presented/sponsored by the College's Athletic Department, Sport Management Association, CAB, Student Senate, Senior, Junior, Sophomore, and Freshman Classes, the Cheerleaders, and the Dance Team. And the student/faculty/staff participation and excitement in the event, made it appear to have been a huge success.

Tug of War

The festivities began around 8:OOPM in the AHLC. Here the fans were greeted at the door by the cheerleading team and the first 300 fans were handed a free T-shirt.

The lobby was filled with fans, carnival games and a live band. Balloons were handed out representing the different class colors (Freshmen-Gold, Sophomores-Red, Juniors-Green, and Seniors-Blue) and class officers were running around attempting to get their fellow classmates to show their class and school spirit.

The evening officially began with the exhibition basketball game with the Harlem Rockets. Each class presented teams to compete against the Rockets in quarter game matches.

The freshman class led off, with obviously the sophomore class following. The sophomore class provided a fast scoring, slam dunking game to add to their rowdy crowd section.

Juniors were up next and found themselves falling behind and slacking with the offense. Last to compete were the seniors who came out triumphant as they beat the Rockets to quickly take the led in the Clash of the Classes and the sophomores came away with the 'best sport' award.

The next major event was the Dance Team's Swing contest, in which anyone from the audience could participate.

The winners of the contest were Junior Paul Nuzzo, and Senior Paul Doyan.

Students ham it up at the Midnight Madness

And the points of this competition were awarded to the seniors. Sox Feet Tug-O-War contest was next with the freshmen and sophomore classes battling it out.

The freshmen walked away with the victory. The next in line to compete were the juniors and seniors, with the seniors coming up on top.

Following this was the final match against the freshman and seniors and surprisingly the freshman defeated the seniors to grab the three points.

The Golden Bear shot contest was the next event in line, and this contest consisted of contestants taking shots from the golden bear on the basketball court.

Alison Barr won the contest by throwing an airball, which ended up bouncing off the court and directly into the net.

As the night proceeded on, other small contests were held, and the Cheerleading Team and the Dance Team performed.

Getting close to midnight, the Cheerleading Team conducted the loudest class contest and WNEC's own Coach T (Theulen) selected the loudest class. It appeared to have been the sophomores, who in the end won the first ever Clash of the Classes trophy.

After the mayhem and celebration of the night's winnings, it was officially midnight and with this came the announcing of the winter sports athletes and teams.

The teams announced were Wrestling, Ice Hockey, Women's Swimming, Martial Arts, and Women's and Men's Basketball.

After all the announcements were completed and the basketball teams performed their first official practice of the season, those who remained were invited to the Dining Hall for breakfast.

Student senators served the breakfast (which consisted of sausage, scrambled eggs, french toast, muffins, bagels, etc.).

And there you have it, Midnight Madness in a nutshell. It was another stepping stone in the college's attempt to develop tradition, campus spirit, enthusiasm, loyalty, and class unity by the means of our own college athletics.

And once again it appeared to have been a success and a whole lot of fun. Let's hope this madness will be even madder next year.

Wrestling Season Begins Optimistically

by Brian McIntyre
Contributing Writer

Once again wrestling season started at Western New England College.

Practices and tournaments are in season and wrestlers are training with an intense state of mind. From October to March individuals of the colleges' team will strive to bring their team to the number one spot.

Kevin Fleenor, a junior and one of the three captains, feels that the team is "family orientated" in their ways.

The wrestlers are friendly with each other and act in unison as a team, not as individuals. Members train hard together to obtain strength and conditioning needed for this rugged sport.

At the end of each practice the wrestlers form as one body and yell "pride!" They are close in spirits and act as a family in order to succeed.

Training is intense. Besides individual efforts on the side to develop strength, requirements must be met.

Everyday except Sunday is a day of hard work and vigorous training.

On Monday through Friday the team meets from 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m. for practice in the Alumni Healthful Living Center here on campus.

Monday and Friday mornings consist of running and drills at 6:00a.m.

Saturdays at 11:00a.m. conditioning and testing takes place.

These young men must endure such harshness to ensure power, capability, and stamina on the mats.

Fleenor states, "We are successful both on and off the mats due to the great people which make up the wrestling team."

Last year Western New England's wrestling program was ranked fourth in New England, consisted of two New England champs, four New England placers, and Academic All-Americans.

"Our success is a school tradition", said Fleenor. The twenty plus years of wrestling at the college have gone extremely well and this year the same is expected by all veterans and newcomers of the close team.

The team is headed by coach Bob Skelton, who previously was a Navy Seal.

Student leaders of the team are the captains who help by setting examples and by assisting their teammates with problematic matters.

These leaders are Kevin Fleenor, John Kanavich, and Glen Ringbloom.

There are thirty wrestlers who represent the school. Fleenor added that several freshmen are "intense" and will be a valuable asset to the team this season.

Wrestlers will demonstrate their skills on the weekend of November 15, 1998, when they leave the campus to partake in the Ithaca Invitational Tournament in New York.

This will be the first test of individual and team strengths.

Opponents this season include Norwich University, Springfield College, Plymouth State, Bridgewater State, and Roger Williams University. Many of these institutions are very well seeded in the sport of wrestling and pose a real challenge to Western New England College.

Wrestling supporters can see home matches in the Alumni Healthful Living Center and a schedule may be obtained if interested in attending away matches.

Practices have just begun and spirits are high and hope is for the best. About five long months remain till the season's finale.

This team is just getting started and will try to keep the Western New England College tradition alive.

Nuzzo Honors Grandfather's Legacy

by Karen O. Rencus
Contributing Writer

Between bowling another perfect game and swing dancing into the late hours of the night, Paul Nuzzo, a junior at Western New England College sets himself apart from his peers as he emerges as a student leader both on and off campus.

Nuzzo, born and raised in Tully, New York, a small town on the outskirts of Syracuse, has flourished in his years at WNEC and is widely recognized throughout campus. A simple stroll through the breathtaking grounds of WNEC warrants at least a dozen hellos by all of Nuzzo's acquaintances. He often admits himself that he has trouble walking from one place on campus to another without being stopped by a friend or peer.

To begin the long list of Paul Nuzzo's daily extracurricular activities would most appropriately start with his love for bowling.

A direct descendent of a professional bowler, Nuzzo's childhood dream was to follow in the footsteps of his esteemed grandfather. Growing up in family of bowlers, he recalls joining his parents at the bowling alley, wishing for the day that he would be able to compete in the game as well.

Nuzzo admits that his bowling interests would have never been sparked if it were not for his mother's interest for the sport throughout the years. Her persistence in teaching her son the disciplinary lessons as well as the art of bowling started Nuzzo's interest in the unique sport.

Never far from his mind was his famed grandfather's legacy, and he set his goals high with hopes of accomplishing as much as his elder role model.

As Nuzzo matured and became more serious about the sport, he remained in the hands of the legacy. Nuzzo's grandfather had yet to see his grandson perform with such incomparable skill. Prior to Nuzzo's eighteenth birthday, family difficulties made it impossible for Nuzzo to see his grandfather.

At the age of eighteen, Nuzzo chose to integrate these two worlds that had been separate entities in his life for so long. Only months after this significant point in his life, a bittersweet year brought Nuzzo his first perfect game as well as the loss of his most beloved role model. Nuzzo's grandfather died unexpectedly of a sudden heart attack.

The collapse of his dream to bowl professionally as his grandfather stood beside to watch did not deter Nuzzo from his lifelong aspirations; with the pain of such a great loss, he was empowered to accomplish more for his grandfather's sake.

"My grandfather's death will not stop his legacy that will live in heart," said Nuzzo. "He is my guardian angel and he watches over me every time I bowl. I just hope that I can make him proud."

With this dream in mind, Nuzzo chose to further both his education as well as his bowling opportunities. Coming to Western New England College meant more for Nuzzo than the average WNEC student.

Knowing that a good education would help him in any career he chose, Nuzzo had another reason for choosing this particular institution. With a burning desire to embrace all of his god-given talents, Nuzzo chose WNEC because of its nationally acclaimed rank in the country for bowling excellency.

Aside from being one of the top athletic teams at WNEC, the Bowling team is ranked 43 in the nation. Despite lack of funds for such an underrated sport, the WNEC Bowling team set records last year after earning third place in the Nation Bowling Championship.

As Nuzzo's junior year begins with even more opportunities, he is faced with yet another challenge. His admirable ability to lead his peers along with incomparable bowling and athletic skill earned Nuzzo the role of tri-captain of this nationally acclaimed team.

Being a driven and dedicated individual, Nuzzo has a new challenge to maintain the team's status as well as attempt to advance it on a nationwide scale.

"This year's team has the experience, talent and discipline to win first place at the National Championship," Nuzzo affirmed.

Although Nuzzo's horizons are set on making bowling a professional career, his sense of reality is well instilled.

Nuzzo realizes that his dream may always be a dream, but his diploma along with high marks will set him apart in the long run. As he continues to succeed academically, his bowling career is not far from his mind.

Nuzzo has maintained a constant grade point average, which reassures him of a bright future.

"My education comes first," Nuzzo said, "but I am not willing to rule out bowling as a profession. I don't want to regret missed opportunities in the future."

From the first day that Nuzzo set foot on campus, he has emerged as a student leader. Although new to both the area and to the school, his first year at WNEC was filled with adjusting to the school and helping his peers adjust as well.

Nuzzo made it his goal to keep his fellow first year students informed about the latest social and academic activities. From the beginning weeks of his first year at WNEC, Nuzzo became a representative for his entire floor in the Residents Hall Association.

He voiced the questions, comments and concerns of many while organizing weekly events. Nuzzo was an integral part during his first year in organizing an event that is now an annual barbecue tradition.

His sophomore year incorporated both his past responsibilities as well as becoming the President of the Residents Hall Association for his new living complex. With past experience, Nuzzo was well prepared to deal with the problems of his residents as well as organize events to maintain morale.

His third year at WNEC has reached new heights even for this aspiring leader. His bowling career is well on its way even as he maintains a respectable grade point average and he adopted yet another leadership role. Nuzzo helps direct new students by providing helpful social and academic advice

In his second year as a Peer Advisor, Nuzzo said that it "lends an opportunity to give advice to new students that would have been helpful to receive."

He continued to say that enjoys being helpful to other students who are in the crux of such an unnerving experience.

Although Nuzzo continues to get involved on campus, his need to discover new hobbies still persists. Swing dancing at a local dance club has become one of Nuzzo's most relaxing pastimes.

While fast moves and upbeat rhythms may not match everyone's idea of relaxation, swing dancing seems most appropriate to match Nuzzo's fast paced life.

Being a dedicated and persistent individual, Nuzzo perfected his dance style to the point of being chosen to teach classes and perform for live audiences. Something that was once a hobby is now one of the most enjoyable jobs Nuzzo could ever hope for.

As Nuzzo continues to further his education as well as distinguish himself as a respectable member of the Western New England College campus, his dreams and aspirations are well instilled.

Whether he accomplished his hopes of being a professional bowler or uses his college degree to obtain a number of other careers of his choice, there is one thing that is for sure. Paul Nuzzo is a name that will soon be known far beyond the WNEC campus.

The Yankees: Truly New York's Finest

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

The 1998 New York Yankees proved that if you wish upon a star, your wildest fantasies can become a reality. The New York dream team ate up and spit out their competition by compiling an uncontested 114-48 regular season record.

The greatest reward did not come until the Yankees won their 24th World Series by wiping the San Diego Padres off the field in a four game sweep.

The Bronx Bombers of 1998 were a team like no other. Although the World Champions did not have one true all-star like most teams, the superior chemistry of the Yankees was more prevalent than the former. Their line-up was so well constructed that average players suddenly looked like Hall of Famers.

Third baseman Scott Brosius who had a mere .203 batting average with 11 homers and 41 RBI last year for the Oakland Athletics came to New York and raised his average to .302, hit 19 home runs, and had 98 RBI for the regular season. In four games against the Padres, Brosius went 8-for-17 (.471) including 2 home runs in one game, earning him the title of World Series MVP.

Rookie outfielder Shane Spencer became known as "Shane The Home Run Dispenser" after hitting 10 homers in 27 games, including an eye-popping 3 grand slams in nine games. The whole squad consisted of relentless players who could not stand losing. The Yanks expected to win every game and they nearly did just that.

After a phenomenal regular season that included numerous long winning streaks, New York continued to win in the post season.

They went 11-2, including a 3-game sweep in the first round of the playoffs against the Texas Rangers and most importantly a 4-game sweep over the San Diego Padres that made the Yanks champions of baseball.

The Yankees' only two losses in the post season came in the second round of the playoffs against the Cleveland Indians, but New York won that series four games to two. In total, the New York Yankees finished out the 1998 season with a historical 125-50 record.

This feat made the Bronx Bombers the best baseball team of all time. Even New York Mets fans have to agree that their hated rivals are truly New York's finest, and baseball's finest for that matter!

ACTS, from page 9

How about biting high notes like Ani Difranco? How about the raw power of Janis Joplin? Some of the blues tinge of Joan Osborne? If the answer to any or all of these questions is yes, then have no fear. I've found that voice right here.

Jess Klein opened two nights for Moxy Fruvous and had the audience in rapture for both of her sets.

Jess traveled from Boston with her acoustic guitar and electric guitarist Austin Nevins, and played her soul out for two sold-out crowds.

Friday, October 30 started with "Angelina," the first song on her CD "Wishes Well Disguised." Although she seemed a little nervous at first, Jess quickly settled in and found her comfort zone.

By the time she hit "Certified Hardcore Bitch," she had the audience singing along, even though most of the crowd had never heard of her until about a half hour before.

Other highlights of the Friday night set included "I Tried" and "The Cloud Song." Near the end of her set, with Austin already off stage for a few solo songs, she put down her guitar and belted out the traditional melody "Another Man Done Gone," which she credits folk legend Odetta for teaching her. She closed her set with Tom Waits' "The Train Song."

Saturday night, a lot of the same people were in the audience, and Jess received a warm reception. She played some of the same songs, including the audience favorite "Certified Hardcore Bitch." But the audience wouldn't get all of Jess until later.

Moxy Fruvous was winding their way through a sometimes bizarre set of all cover songs when they called Jess up to do "Summertime."

She opened her mouth, and jaws started dropping. While we had all heard her voice earlier that night, and many of us the night before, no one really expected the power.

When it was over, the audience seemed a little confused, as if no one was sure what had just happened.

Even Moxy Fruvous was stunned, with guitarist Dave Mattheson declaring that he needed a cigarette before he could continue playing.

Jess will be returning to the Iron Horse Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. as part of the Voices on the Verge tour with Beth Amsel, Rose Polenzani and Erin McKeown.

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As of Monday, November 9th, registration begins. Don't forget to sign up for your spring semester classes.

WNEC Reminder

The Review of Art & Literature wants your submissions now! Both written works and visual art. Please drop everything off at the Student Publications Office.

WNEC Reminder

Support our athletes! 11/7 WNEC Football vs. M.I.T.; 11/7 WNEC Ice Hockey vs. University of Scranton; 11/7 WNEC Women's Swimming @ Bridgewater State College; 11/12 WNEC Ice Hockey @ Worcester State College.

WNEC Reminder

Coming soon, Family Weekend. Friday 11/13 - Sunday 11/15. Don't forget to tell the folks. Details coming soon.

Local Event

Dancing at Lughnasa - A melodic memory of five sisters in western Ireland in 1936. At the Theater at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley. Call 413-538-2406 for tickets and listings. Shows running from Nov. 5th through the 7th. Reservations beginning the 2nd.

Local Event

Saturday 11/7- celebrate Veteran's Day at the Springfield Armory. Presenting "Women in the Military," at 1:30. Free Admission.

Local Event

The Lesbian Bazaar: Arts, Crafts, & Community. Sat. 12/5, 10 - 5, Northhampton Center for the Arts. Performances, demos + workshops

Local Event

Wayman Tisdale- former NBA player to perform his record debut "Decisions." Sat. Nov 14th, Oak Inn, Agawam. Call 212-424-1208 for more details.

Local Event

"Almost Like Being In Love- The Lerner & Loewe Songbook," starring Diahann Carroll. Sunday, Nov. 15th, 3:00pm at Springfield Symphony Hall. Tickets on sale through Civic Center box office and Ticketmaster.

Local Event

"Little Women," coming to Springfield Symphony Hall Friday, Nov. 13th. Tickets are $9.00 and $12.50

Local Event

The Austrailian-Irish dance hit "Galeforce Dance" comes to the Springfield Symphony Hall, Sunday, Nov. 22nd at 3:00pm. Tickets are $25 and $35. Presenting some of the most highly recognized Irish dancers worldwide.

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Help Wanted

The Westerner is looking to fill staff positions for the current school year. Please inquire at the Student Publications Office or call Wayne Barr at 782-1580. Assistant Editor, L/A Section Editor, and Treasurer available. Comp skills a plus. Also looking for staff writers.

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CLASSIFIEDS
p. 11-12

Women's Soccer Team Ends Season Triumphantly

Lisa DiTaranto Talks about the Success of the Golden Bears

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

This fall's women's soccer team proved that one season can nearly be flawless — both literally and figuratively.

The 1998 Golden Bears dominated their competition by compiling 18 victories, losing a mere two games during the regular season. In the post season, the soccer team's astonishing record improved to 20-2 as they triumphed over Drew University and Western Connecticut to win the honorable ECAC Championship.

The Golden Bears of '98 were saturated with talented athletes, one of which was Lisa DiTaranto. DiTaranto, a sophomore from Hubbardston, Mass., played right halfback for the soccer team. She scored a total of 4 goals with 5 assists and started in 21 of the 22 games played.

This year's success was due to several key factors. For instance, the three senior captains (Katie Brunelle, Molly Burke, and Kristen Ogulewicz) motivated the team by setting good examples of how to play on a higher level. The players all seemed willing to improve their skills for these three veterans. As DiTaranto noted, "Our team plays very well together — we connect."

The sophomore right halfback explained that the coaching staff, led by head coach Ron Dias and assistant coach Ryan Kelly, "were willing to give 150% or more for us, by sticking by the team through

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Back Row: Katherine Farry, Stephanie Wordell, Ryan Kelly, Callie Durbrow, Christy Eppolito, Molly Burke, Dianne Baron, Stephanie Szajna, Megan Hallaran, Kristen Ogulewicz, Ron Dias. Middle Row: Lilliam Guerra, Deanna Partlaw, Lisa DiTaranto, Tapleigh Fallon, Marissa Stawasz. Bottom Row: Jennifer Bonafede, Carolyn Hoffman, Kathryn Brunelle

Kerns-Zucco Returns from a Land of Extremes

by Wayne Barr
Editor

East of the Black Hills in South Dakota, not far from Mount Rushmore, the flat grasslands of the Pine Ridge Reservation stretch into about 5,000 acres of wide, open spaces and small, decentralized towns.

The reservation is owned by the Lakota Indians, and for two and a half years it was home to Professor Raymond Kerns-Zucco, who taught at Oglala Lakota College.

"I was working here [at Western New England College] as an adjunct for two years, and saw an ad for a full time sociology position [at Oglala], and applied," he said.

After a trial semester, Kerns-Zucco was joined by his wife, and over the course of their stay at Pine Ridge they lived in the town of Martin, just outside the reservation, and

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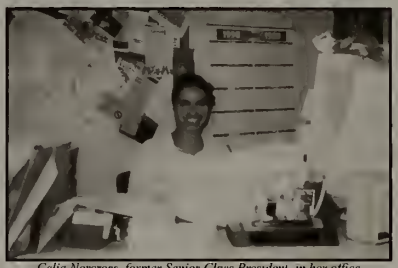
A view of one of the college centers on the Pine Point Reservation, where Professor Kerns-Zucco taught

Old Student is New Coordinator

Norcross Settles into New Role at WNEC

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer


Celia Norcross, former Senior Class President, in her office

Celia Norcross, class of 1998, WNEC graduate, loves Western New England College. She loves this school so much that she returned here this fall, as Student Activities Program Coordinator.

Norcross spent the summer after graduation searching for a Program Coordinator position. She received many offers, but the one from Western New England College attracted her the most.

As an undergraduate student at WNEC, Norcross, was a highly visible member of the college community. She served as Resident Advisor, Class President, and Publicity Chair for Student Senate.

She was also a member of the Women's Volleyball team, the manager of the Men's Basketball team, and Sports Editor for the Cupola, WNEC's yearbook.

Her other undergraduate activities included the Campus Activities Board, Management Association, All College Committee, and the Reaching Goal Membership Program.

Norcross feels her participation in student organizations prepared her for her responsibilities as Program Coordinator. These responsibilities include advising the Campus Activities Board and all the media groups.

The media groups are WNEK-FM, *The Cupola*, *The Review of Art & Literature*, and *The Westerner*.

As Program Coordinator, Norcross is also responsible for helping student clubs and organizations with publicity and programs. This means she guides student leaders in the right direction when they do not know how to hold, or publicize a program.

When she was first hired, many people were concerned that Norcross would not make the transition from "peer" to "administrator" since so many students know her as a friend.

Norcross feels that since she was a student leader at WNEC the transition was not really that difficult.

Norcross also feels her friendships with WNEC students have "helped rather than hindered" her. She feels a similar position in another school would be more difficult to get used to since she would have needed to establish new friendships.

Norcross plans to work towards her masters degree in the spring at Springfield college while she continues her employment at WNEC.

Psychology Club Goes to Washington for Convention

by Haidi Drawac
Contributing Writer

The Psychology Club recently took a trip to Washington, D.C. to attend the 32nd Annual Convention of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy (AABT) from November 5th to November 8th.

Eight upperclassmen and one advisor drove seven hours to the conference in order to attend lectures and symposiums on different aspects of behavior therapy.

The students found a great interest in many of topics that were discussed, including a poster session on Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome.

Focusing on many experiments which graduate students from different colleges performed, these sessions usually lasted between one and one and a half hours.

The students split up so that they could go to a variety of different sessions. The group found many topics that pertained to their limited knowledge of the experiments.

"Classes here at WNEC helped us to understand the experiments. Finally, the money I put into college is paying off," explained Western New England College senior Colleen Mahoney.

> ***"Classes here at WNEC helped us to understand the experiments. Finally, the money I put into college is paying off..."***

Being able to talk to professors from different colleges and universities also proved to be a benefit for the group.

Mahoney stated, "Meeting some of the people who work at other schools gave us all a good chance to network."

Even though the group had to start traveling back to WNEC at six o'clock in the morning, the experience of the AABT Conference gave the group insight for their future.

U.S. Human Rights Record Not Good, According to Professor

by Josh Shaar
Editorials Editor

English Professor Eugene Angus spoke to Professor Emmett Barcalow's Colloquium on Human Rights in Sleith 100 on Thursday, November 12.

The lecture was based on research Angus has completed throughout the years for personal interest. His thesis was, "The U.S. does not have a good human rights record," and he backed that thesis up with several examples during the 50-minute talk.

Angus cited some cases in which the U.S. has aided foreign governments in making sure its own foreign assets were safe through any means necessary. He split the talk into two time periods: the years during the Cold War (the end of World War II until the fall of the U.S.S.R.), and the decade since the Cold War.

He first gave a brief history of the United States' rise to power as a world leader. In 1620, Pilgrims landed in Plymouth after a journey from England. After looking at the barren autumnal New England, they had a vision: they would build a Christian land here, free from the oppression they had suffered in Europe.

According to Angus, this decision bred intolerance and arrogance, two traits that seem to have developed nationally with the growth of this country.

After the Civil War, when the U.S. began to develop industrially and become a major contender in the world market, it won Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippine Islands from Spain.

The U.S. declared that any land it came to own through any channels was due to "Manifest Destiny," the idea that "it was meant to be" — no matter what path the U.S. took, it was predetermined that it would have that land.

After the second World War, there were two major countries competing for military superiority, and, Angus said, they would do anything to make other countries their pawns in the game for that superiority. As a result, there were "two countries with enough technology to kill everyone in the world many times over."

It was during the Cold War that many of the human rights violations caused by the U.S. began.

In 1953, Iranian citizens elected Mossadeq their leader in a move that kicked the dictating Shah out of office. Mossadeq established himself as a nationalist by nationalizing British industry in Iran so that the country could retain some of the money that was being made on its land.

Afraid of a similar action against U.S. industry, the CIA went to Iran, killed Mossadeq, and reinstated the Shah as leader of that country. The move ensured that the U.S. would not lose its oil industry in Iran.

See ANGUS, next page

Professor Eugene Angus

ANGUS, from previous page

The following year, 1954, Guatemala elected a man named Arbenz to lead the country. Not only did he nationalize some foreign industry, but he redistributed some of the agricultural land owned by the upper class among the poverty-torn lower class as well.

Afraid of losing economic interest among the Guatemalan wealthy, the U.S. again sent the CIA in to do its bidding. The Agency aided the Guatemalan military in assassinating Arbenz and installing another dictator to lead the country.

In the late 1960s, Chile elected a socialist president named Allende to office. Knowing that the military and the small but influential business elite did not support his interests, Allende stepped slowly.

European nations supported Allende's government. Socialists were at the helm of many countries in Europe, and those rulers looked forward to trading with Chile.

The U.S., however, had other interests. Allende disappeared while the CIA was working with the Chilean military. The military report said that Allende committed suicide, but Angus and many others believe he was murdered.

According to Amnesty International, at least 5,000 people were tortured or killed under Pinochetis regime.

Pinochet was recently arrested in Europe. While most of the Western World awaits his trial for crimes against humanity, the U.S. has sided with Pinochet, supposedly because of his age.

Angus cited Henry Kissinger, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1973 for his work in Vietnam, as one of the most complacent men in the U.S. with regards to human rights violations. Angus said he is fond of saying that "Kissinger had blood all over him."

Since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Angus wonders what the U.S. has to worry about, since it is quite possibly the most powerful nation in the history of the world. He believes, however, the United States seems to only be talking human rights, rather than following through with action.

In the former Yugoslavia, Serbs carried out genocidal practices, violating human rights until the country was cleansed of its Croatian enemies. Meanwhile, the U.S. supported the United Nations in sending military police on a "peacekeeping" mission to the area. Angus asked why there was no real intervention.

China, the most heavily populated country in the world, has been violating human rights for years, according to Amnesty International records. The U.S. sends people to talk to Chinese leaders, but Angus wondered why the U.S. government hasn't done anything economically or militarily discouraging to Chinese practices. He mentioned that in a market the size of China, a 50-cent product sold to even a small portion of the population could make a person or a company millions of dollars literally overnight.

Angus also cited the recent U.S. complacency in Rwanda and Indonesia as testaments to the continued complacency of a country that claims to be the "new defender of human rights."

Professor Angus predicts that Muslim Fundamentalism will become the new arch-enemy of the United States, replacing the U.S.S.R.

Sophomore Class Senator Plans to Bury Time Capsule

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

Have you ever wished you could leave something for the future, so people would know who you were?

Sophomore class student senator Mia Arrigo has a plan for WNEC students to do just that. Near the end of next semester, Arrigo hopes the bury WNEC's first ever time capsule.

She said that WNEC has, to the knowledge of the present administration, no other time capsules buried on the campus. Her idea is to "start a tradition" were each class could bury their own time capsule.

Although the project is still in its infant stage, the new freshman class, according to Mia, is already making plans to have their own time capsule, separate from the one which she is organizing.

Her time capsule, however, is a collaboration between the sophomore, junior, and senior classes.

The plan is to bury it by the end of next semester and, dig it up near the time the present sophomore class graduates.

The objects that Arrigo is looking for to put in the time capsule include copies of the student publications, photographs of some of the events that happened during the year, and any other pictures from students that wish to contribute.

It is possible for the juniors and seniors, who wish to contribute, to get their submissions back, if they include their name, a permanent address and phone number.

Arrigo asks that all submissions are made before the end of April. They can be sent to her at box 1398.

Anyone with questions may call her at X-4550.

Travel Feature

Training at Fort Knox

by Sean Krause
Contributing Writer

This summer I was lucky enough to spend five weeks at an Army ROTC training camp in Fort Knox, KY. The camp is open to those interested in Army ROTC, and also allows students with no ROTC experience a chance to earn or validate scholarships.

Some of the training I participated in included rappelling, rope bridge training, basic rifle marksmanship, leadership reaction training, and day and night land navigation.

Being able to fire weapons was a lot of fun. I got to fire an M-16, a 9mm, an M-203 grenade launcher, an M-60, an M-249 saw, and an AT-4 anti-tank missile launcher. We were only able to fire simulated rounds with the AT-4 because the real thing costs over $6,000.

We also did some obstacle course training, which I personally thought was a lot of fun as well.

As fun as some of the training was, the best part about the camp was the friendship and camaraderie that developed within our platoon. I met people from all over the country, and even a few who weren't from the U.S. And believe it or not, we even grew a little fond of our Drill Sergeants as well.

My platoon won the honor platoon award, which basically means we kicked everybody else's butt.

I still keep in contact with a good number of the cadets I met at camp, and I am sure I will continue to do so for a long time to come. Thanks to the convenience of e-mail, we can still keep in touch and it doesn't cost a fortune.

Now, I'm not saying it was a picnic. There were times when it got pretty tough. For instance, when we were doing individual tactical training, and it had been raining for two days straight. We were basically rolling around in mud all day long, and I had mud in places where mud is not supposed to be.

I don't know if I have ever been as happy as when we finally got sprayed down with hoses at the end of that day. A week later we were all able to look back and laugh about it. Who ever said that anything worth having comes easy anyway?

Dr. Caprio also made the trip down to Ft. Knox to observe the training, and to see what basic camp was all about.

"It's a good program that is balanced and tough. Very realistic," said the school president, when asked about his view of the camp.

He also wants every student to be aware of the benefits the ROTC program has to offer students. Dr. Caprio believes sending a WNEC faculty member to a ROTC training event every year could improve student exposure to ROTC.

I was surprised by how quickly the five weeks of training flew by. At the end of camp we were all proud of ourselves, and of each other.

We knew we had performed well, and the experience made us better people on the way home from camp than we were on the trip there.

Dr. Anthony Caprio at Fort Knox, Kentucky

Crop Walk a Success

Campus Ministry

The Western New England College Community had a strong turnout for the annual Crop Walk campaign which took place at Trinity United Methodist Church in Springfield on October 18, 1998.

Some 21 walkers from the campus faithfully undertook the trek to combat hunger in our community and around the world.

Church World Service, an interfaith organization which seeks to relieve hunger and poverty, is the national sponsor.

Thanks to the WNEC walkers for raising over $725.00.

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The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

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later in a trailer in Rapid City.

"It's a very different world," said Kerns-Zucco, "a place of great extremes and contradictions."

Many of the differences, of course, have to do with the attitudes, behaviors, and culture of the Lakota Indians — and these, in turn, are linked to the history of the reservation itself.

Established through the treaty of 1868, "the original reservations was ten times the size it is now," said Kerns-Zucco, but when gold was discovered in the Black Hills, the government began taking back land.

The Lakota, in fact, are still engaged in court battles for the return of the Black Hills.

"The first reservation dwarfed the current one," said Kerns-Zucco. "It was huge."

The Lakota on the reservation today charge the American government with the theft of their land, and blame it for the poverty they face. According to Kerns-Zucco, the people generally feel that the government owes them money, education, food, roads. "They look at it as payback," he said.

Needless to say, Thanksgiving is not observed on the reservation — to the Lakota, the holiday is an insult, Kerns-Zucco said.

Part of the contradiction of the Lakota people, he found, is that despite their grievances against the government, they are open and honest, "willing to judge you based on what you do, rather than whether you're white ... they're not big on being saved, especially by some white guy, but as long as your motives are appropriate — like teaching — there's no problem."

It's the simultaneous existence of a "critical edge, the idea that if it weren't for the white man, life would be perfect," and suspension of judgment, that Kerns-Zucco found intriguing.

"After a while it gets old, talking about how 'the white man stole our land' ... but the people are very trusting and open," he said. "For a people whose way of life has been destroyed, it's very encouraging."

The reservation today is so characterized by poverty that "it resembles a third-world country." There is no industry on the reservation, and the only institutions the Lakota control and work for are the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the college and schools, and the Social Services.

There are "huge farms and ranches all around the reservation, but these are owned by whites," said Kerns-Zucco. "Native people have very little to do with farming."

Lakota culture, actually, was never agricultural, but was economically based on the buffalo.

The current unemployment rate, especially among the male population, Kerns-Zucco attributes to the virtual extinction of the buffalo, and the consequent loss of Lakota male identity.

"A lot of people are trying to determine the role of the male — he used to be a warrior, but now that's gone," he said.

A small herd of buffalo at Custer State Park, near the Black Hills

"The sad reality is that many of the people are like everyone else in American — they get up in the morning, get in their cars, go to work, listen to the radio, wear jeans ... "

Despite efforts to preserve Lakota culture, Kerns-Zucco is doubtful that it is possible. "I think it's too late ... when I would ask kids what their favorite Lakota TV programs are, they would say, 'well, there are none.'"

Here there is another contradiction, Kerns-Zucco believes — the Lakota want to recapture tradition, but live in and are influenced by a modern world.

"If you join the industrial world, you are called a sellout — but you can't reach back and grab something that's not there," he said. "No one has decided the direction of the people on the reservation ... they're adrift out there ... and life is more dangerous on the reservation."

In the balance of so many extremes and contradictions, there are, according to Kerns-Zucco, higher mortality rates at Pine Ridge, more cases of diabetes, more murders and accidents. Oddly enough, there Lakota culture does not include direct confrontation — another apparent contradiction.

"Nobody argues ... people just disappear and maybe later somebody's shooting into your backyard or something," he said.

Even religiously, the reservation is diverse. "The native peoples are known for including everyone," Kerns-Zucco said.

There are Christian churches, Native American churches, and, of course, those who observe the ancient religion of their culture.

"For years, the religious practices were banned — sun dances, sweat lodges, etc., until the 60's or 70's ... so people on the reservation couldn't openly practice their religion."

Now, however, the Lakota are worried about new-age treatment of their religious heritage, concerned about American "co-opting" of vision quests, dreams, and visions. At the same time, however, they are not necessarily reluctant to share — on one occasion, a Lakota friend took Kerns-Zucco to a sweat lodge, but only "to explain, to familiarized — not for the experience."

Because of the cultural, behavioral, and religious idiosyncrasies of their people, most of the students Kerns-Zucco taught at Oglala were there to earn human services degrees.

"One of the fortunate aspects of that was that it allowed people to help other people," he said. Some students dropped out, but interestingly "the majority of the students who stuck were women."

At first, Kerns-Zucco thought the college wasn't attracting men, but the truth was that more men than women were dropping out.

Culturally, he explained, Lakota women do most of the work; historically, they did much of the most difficult labor.

"The woman are still very strong, although they have little voice politically," he said.

The college itself is decentralized, and Kerns-Zucco taught in nine collge centers across the reservation. While he was there, five new ones were built.

Students at Oglala could only earn credit at college centers actually on the reservation.

Kerns-Zucco taught approximately thirty-five students in five classes. Even in the educational environment, however, there were stark differences of attitude and behavior.

"It was frustrating sometimes, to be sitting in a class and have people come walking through the classroom," he said. Also, people operated on what he called "Indian time," at least when there was a meeting. "It was 'in style' to not be on time — then you were living according to the Indian way," he said.

Ultimately, it was the climate that most affected Kerns-Zucco. "Mostly the weather just wore me down," he said. "It's just like the area: extreme."

In winter temperatures plummeted to 20 degrees below zero, and huge ice storms swept across the plain.

In summer the heat swelled to 105 degrees, and dropped to 60 at night.

"Basically, you roast during the day, and at night sleep like a baby," he said.

After two and a half years, Kerns-Zucco applied for an open position at Western New England College, was accepted, and moved back to New England — driven mostly by the extreme weather, and a general feeling of homesickness.

"It was a wonderful experience," he said. "I took for granted my status as an American. I really came to appreciate that out there, because it's like living in a third world. It really makes you pretty grateful, seeing the condition of some folks, for what you've had and where you've been."

A view across Pine Ridge Reservation

Advice Column

Ask Sandy & Rizzo ...

(Sandy and Rizzo are The Westerner's advice columnists. It may not be good, but it's definitely advice.)

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

My girlfriend just told me that she has been cheating on me, with another girl. She lives back at home, so I kind of expected her to see other people while I was gone, but not other women! She told me she doesn't want to break up with either of us, but I'm not comfortable with that. What should I do?

— Confused

Dear Confused,

Are you upset because she's cheating on you, or because her new fling is a woman? Did you promise to stay "exclusive" during the semester, or are you allowing each other dating freedom? It sounds like you gave your girlfriend the freedom to see other people and wish you could take that freedom back.

If you honestly feel uncomfortable with the situation, regardless of the reason for your discomfort, talk to your girlfriend. Let her know you don't want her seeing other people (or just women if that's all you dislike). Telling the truth is an important part of a relationship. She was honest with you, so repay her the favor.

— Sandy

I completely understand where you are coming from. I really don't think that the issue is about it being another woman, but just that it is another person. I believe that you may love her more than you thought, since you say you expected her to see other people but not feel uncomfortable with it. If you are allowing her to see other people than you can't limit it to only men. You have to except her bisexuality, or move on.

*** RIZZO

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

I just found out my roommate loves threesomes. Personally, I don't care, but I'm afraid she'll want me to be part of one. I'm a little paranoid. I think she's going to tie me down and force me into a threesome! I found some rope and handcuffs and a little diary mentioning my name!

— Too Straight

Dear Too Straight,

Wow. You sure are in an interesting situation, aren't you? Maybe you should start by asking yourself why you think she would want you to be part of a threesome. If you have real, concrete evidence that she is planning to force you into a threesome, then you should be scared. Talk to your roommate, tell her about your fears, and let her know you aren't interested in that lifestyle. If your roommate is a reasonable person, she will understand.

— Sandy

I really don't think that you should be so paranoid. What makes you think she's having threesomes just because of some rope and handcuffs. It seems like a normal sex life to me! I have rope and handcuffs and I've never had a threesome - well, not really... but thats another story.

*Second of all, what makes you think she would be inviting you into her sex life? I highly doubt that she will be "tying you down" all too soon. But if you want, get neaked, tie yourself up and save her the trouble! ***RIZZO*

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

My roommate doesn't flush the toilet. It grosses me out. What should I do?

— Just Disgusted

Deor Disgusted,

Maybe your roomie doesn't flush if he/she is planning to take a shower afterwards. In most houses, shower temperature is affected when water is used in another part of the house, especially the toilet. Or maybe your roomie feels he/she is saving the planet by not flushing everytime. Unless the lack of flushing is causing a bad smell, a dirty bathroom, or occurs after a "number 2," I wouldn't worry about it.

— Sandy

Yeah, that is pretty gross. Don't ya hate that? I know it does happen, but it should not be a regular thing. I think that your roommate should definately be told that her habits are unacceptable. If you can't kindly mention it to her then leave her a note. You could leave a note in the bathroom, "flushing appreciated," or you could draw a picture of an unflushed toilet and put a big X through it and hang it over the toilet (hint, hint!)

*** RIZZO*

If you have a question for Sandy and Rizzo, send it to Box 1234.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

Finally, after months of study and hard work, students, faculty, and campus employees will be able to enjoy a five-day Thanksgiving recess. What exciting plans do you have? If you're not sure how to spend your precious days of freedom, perhaps these people can give you some ideas.

...What Are You Doing For Thanksgiving?

"I'm going to Aruba!"
— Heidi Daly (left)

"I'm bringing my roommate home with me, and also going to the Macy's Day Parade."
— Staci Kruger (right)

"Staying home with family and cooking!"
— Erika O'Sullivan, Lisa Cullahan, Ann Marie Falardeau (all said the same thing)

"Going home — Thanksgiving at my house. Saturday after Thanksgiving, we go and get our Christmas Tree."
— Amy White

"Going home to spend Thanksgiving with family. Going to eat until I can't fit in anything any more, and playing games until my stomach hurts from laughing."
— Cindy Lauher

Why Woody Allen Should Run for President

How do I love Woody Allen? Let me count the ways....

Forget, for the moment, what you think of his films. Just remember what they are about. Not the plots, specifically, but what the

Josh, Inspissated

movies represent.

Naked truth. Honesty. Openness.

Our lives have been inundated with lies recently. We've heard about the Clinton/Lewinsky scandal for far too long. Benjamin Netanyahu has been feeding the world lines since he took office. Saddam Hussein's about as consistent as Jell-O, and frankly, I need some solid ground to stand on.

So, every month or so, I go rent a Woody Allen movie.

He always stars in his films, and generally plays a neurotic, sex-addicted alcoholic with an inferiority complex. And someone in every movie always says something just a little too noticeably true.

In *Hannah and her Sisters*, Allen's character is found to have a low volatility to his sperm. He asks, half to himself and half to his female companion, how that could happen.

When his companion makes a snide comment about him masturbating too much as a younger man, Allen's character replies, "Hey! Don't knock my hobbies."

In *Bullets Over Broadway*, a private conversation about love and sex on a dark street suddenly becomes a loud discourse including occupants of the apartments lining both sides of the street.

One of the women in one of the apartments gives her view on the subject: "For me, love is deep. Sex only has to go a few inches."

Deconstructing Harry is the twisted story of an author who depicts his past relationships in his books. When people read the books and realize they are about the relationships they had had with the author, interactions become strained, and weird things start to happen.

With all the truth pouring out of Allen's work, particular on the subject of sex and his own feelings on the topic, some alert journalist finally asked Allen his thoughts on the president's current state. His answer?

"If I were Clinton, I would have gone in front of the American people and said, 'Yes, I'm having an affair with this woman. My wife is still behind me so it's really none of your business and if this is not OK with you, fine, get yourself a new president.'"

Once again, Allen has put his pure, unabashed sense of truth out on display, and once again, he has one-upped the American people by not only agreeing with them, but also giving his public opinion the extra step that most people refused to verbalize.

General consensus has it that Clinton should have told the truth up front. By Clinton's approval ratings, it appears that Americans aren't too upset with the sex or even the lies. So why not just get on with our lives? We must be waiting for something.

What we are waiting for, I believe, is what I like to call the brick wall effect.

Whenever anything is going even slightly out of control, it comes to an abrupt stop. It never seems to just fade away. It's almost as if you're driving along at 100 miles per hour, a large brick wall appears out of nowhere, and - BANG! - you just stop.

If you push yourself too far, your body will just shut down, and you'll be in bed sick for a day or two, not able to move. That's the brick wall effect.

Woody Allen has given us that brick wall. If Clinton had, in fact, said, "...if this is not OK with you, fine, get a new president," public reaction would have been much stronger and more polarized than it actually was (and continues to be).

Rather than the ultimatum, Clinton just gave us something to be frustrated about. There's been the quagmire of Kenneth Starr's anthology on Clinton's sexual exploits. There's been continuous talk of impeachment proceedings in Congress, and it seems that only lists are being made. What's actually being done?

Well, Lewinsky will have a book come out in the near future. She recently signed a deal to have her story published.

Clinton will go down in history as the president that soiled Thomas Jefferson's image.

And we'll go down in history as the voting public that researched the sexual histories of the people running for president in 2000 rather than their stances on relevant issues.

I'm not saying that people should put brick walls in strategic

places to upset processes they don't agree with or want to see stopped. I am saying, however, that people should believe in something all the way to the end of the consequences of their opinions.

If polls are correct, more than 2/3 of the voters in this country do not want to see President Clinton impeached. If that's true, why is the inquiry process continuing? Because the people who want Clinton impeached are willing to believe in and work to that end, while many of the people who believe he should finish his term are in denial — they believe he couldn't actually be impeached.

Bill Clinton isn't the only one in this article who has been the target of sexual accusations. Allen himself had the finger pointed at him, and he was up-front with the media and public. He took all the consequences, and he ended up resting against the brick wall, rather than crashing into it.

So, when you need a break from all the idealism reality has to offer, go rent a Woody Allen movie. Even if some of the characters are out of focus, you'll be subject to a little more truth than you're used to.

Josh Shear

Barnett Slepian Was More Than an "Abortionist"

I have tried to stop thinking about it but I just can't. The headlines of newspapers across the country read "N.Y. abortion doctor killed at home by sniper" (Boston Herald 10-25-98).

Is that what Dr. Barnett Slepian was, just an abortionist?

I thought he was the father of four children, a husband, someone's son, uncle, friend, and sibling.

He was an obstetrician and gynecologist.

A physician who by education and practice delivered health care to women.

A man who delivered thousands of babies, managed the care of women who were at high risk (because of diabetes or high blood pressure) for miscarriage or preterm labor so they could deliver a normal healthy child.

He diagnosed cancers of the breasts, uterus, cervix and ovaries and saved countless lives removing those cancerous organs.

He treated infertile women so that they might experience the joy of a wanted pregnancy.

He counseled on prevention modalities to keep women healthy through old age.

He terminated pregnancies of women who had determined that they could not or did not want to have a child.

This is the role of the gynecologist/obstetrician.

A good health care provider is one who, whether he agrees or disagrees with the choices a patient makes, supports that individual's right to make that decision.

> *Good health care providers understand that they are not God, judge or jury ... It is not the provider's place to impose his scientific knowledge, personal, moral, or religious beliefs on that patient.*

Does that mean that every doctor who encounters a person who wants to terminate a pregnancy should perform the abortion if it is against his/her personal beliefs?

No. But it does mean that the physician has an obligation to refer the patient to another provider who can provide what the patient has determined is right for her.

Good health care providers understand clearly that they are not God, judge or jury.

Every provider has taken care of a patient whose personal choices fly in the face of what he or she believes is moral and ethical.

Sometimes the choices that the patient makes will compromise his health status and then it is the obligation of the provider to counsel that patient as to the risks, benefits and possible side effects of those choices.

It is not, however, the provider's place to impose his scientific knowledge, personal, moral or religious beliefs on that patient.

How would you feel if you asked your provider for the birth control pill and he/she asked you if you were married and would not prescribe it because you weren't? Whether you think so or not it happens all the time.

Abortions are legal in the United States. Whether you agree or disagree with the law, remember a few facts:

Abortions were being performed long before they were legal, and women were seriously injured or died during these procedures; wealthy women were always able to get abortions because they could go to a place where abortion was legal and have it done safely; the vast majority of women who have had or will have an abortion never planned to be become pregnant at that time in their lives.

See SLEPIAN, page 10

Loud Music is More Than Just "Noise"

Music is a main factor that alienates one generation from the next.

Young people see their parent's music as staid and lifeless, while an adult listening to modern music only hears screaming and dissonance.

Music has been a tool inciting young revolutionaries to action, from the underground swing of the 30's to the radical folk songs of the 60's. Ministers rail from the pulpit about the corrupting affects of music on the young mind, sometimes going so far as to attempt to ban dancing altogether.

Politicians attempt to ban "sinful" musicians from performing in their constituencies, citing artists from the Beatles to Black Sabbath as a threat to the public good.

Police blotters are strewn with complaints of "disturbance of the peace" and the breakup of loud parties.

Parents turn aghast at the lyrics pouring out from behind their childrens' doors. Loud music has been reviled, censored, and dismissed as "just a phase."

Behind all the public fear and confusion, however, few people have speculated as to the truth behind the fear. Why do young people enjoy beat driven music full of distortion? For what reason are they attracted to "offensive" lyrics, dark themes, and aggressive movement to that music, from swinging to slam dancing and moshing?

There are reasons deep in the human psyche why aggressive music is a necessary and natural part of youth, and should be embraced as a needed rite of passage instead of reviled and forbidden.

Looking back toward earlier cultures, the relation between youth and loud musical expression seems universal in all cultures.

On Beaitaine, or the solstice, Celtic youths gathered for a ringkye, or growth dance, an initiation into warriorhood. They would dance around an enormous bonfire all night, and were considered men and women afterward.

Hopi girls at the time of menarche were "transformed" into the goddess White Painted Woman and danced continuously and took mesquite until they had a vision of their guardian spirit.

The Yanomamo, a tribe of the Amazon, battle to near-death to the beat of drums to show their courage and tolerance to pain.

These events were hailed as rites of passage, necessary part of the growth into adulthood, the expression of the inner wildness that lies within all of us.

Through the mysticism and psychedelics involved they experienced the deeper, darker aspects of life that they were forbidden to express in normal society.

Another common aspect of these coming of age rituals was unusual adornment. Ritual body painting, scarrification and tattooing were common. They symbolized the creation of the new person, like phoenix immolating itself on the fire to be reborn.

They also served to distinguish and bond the adolescent community during this time of vision-seeking and growth.

The elders remembered how at that time they had needed to express themselves the same way, and accept the behavior of the adolescents as a natural part of life, like the seasons.

This wasn't "just a phase," something to be derided and dismissed. It was a natural movement in the ebb and flow of growing up, a way to express the intense emotion of bodies wracked by hormones and newfound sexual feelings.

It was a time when adolescents were expected to remain with other youths, to discuss mysteries only they could understand. They also understood how darkness needed to be expressed.

Many coming of age rituals feature a death archetype, or underworld creatures. This in no way showed the participants were evil or sinful. It was understood that it was better to act out forbidden emotions as artistic expression than in reality. How were they to understand goodness and light if they had not yet experienced darkness?

Cut to a death metal concert in 1998. Hundreds of youths flail wildly in a mosh pit throwing their bodies at each other, climbing on top of each other to crowd surf.

People are occasionally carted away with injuries but the vigor of the moshers only increases.

On stage the band pumps out evil-sounding rhythms accompanied by grunting, screaming, and guitars on full distortion. Painted around the stage are inverted pentagrams, and the audience flashes the two-fingered sign of the Devil.

The crowd is covered with piercings, tattoos, and self-inflicted scars, and dressed all in black with bizarre makeup.

A religious Right group protests outside attempting to "save the souls" of the "heathen and satanic" children. Police arrive to break it up.

To anyone above thirty the attraction of this scene is incomprehensible.

To the youth there, however, it is like a blessed relief, a chance to express the dark, mystical, violent aspects of themselves that they cannot show in our whitewashed, conservative society.

Notice the common themes between the metal concert and the tribal coming-of-age rituals. The aggressiveness, the wild dancing, the mystic and occult themes, the bizarre adornment.

The youth are vainly trying to express an aspect of themselves that is natural and should be embraced, but the forces of society and authority can do nothing more than to attempt to stop a part of growth as necessary as chicken pox.

Perhaps the authorities regret that they did not get to express similar emotions when they were young and society was even more repressive.

The reason we crave loud music is that it feeds those tribal instincts and wild emotions that are repressed by society. Instead of fearing their children's music and repressing it, the older generation should understand loud, aggressive musical expression as a needed part of growing up, and something that should be encouraged to its fullest.

Jamas Russell

Students Need to Help Establish Their Own Curricula

I have come to a stark realization about my situation here at WNEC.

I've realized why I don't view things in the same way as the vast majority of others on this campus.

The difference in viewpoints is tied to the fundamental purpose of college.

My view of college differs greatly from the "standard" view in one critical area; namely the structure and purpose of college. Let me explain briefly what I'm talking about before I get into my major points.

The structure of college differs in my mind from what I believe most other people see. I view college as an opportunity to focus educational attention on those areas that interest me the most.

I believe that most other people view college as simply a continuation of high school, and a further chance to develop the "well-rounded" skills thought necessary in the job market.

College to me seems almost like a reward. I passed through high school (badly I might add) with the notion that when I reached college, life would somehow change.

Since I was such a poor student in high school, I was easily discouraged from trying to succeed. Everyone around me told me to persevere, because college was "different".

College was where you could focus yourself on those subjects that you enjoyed the most. Everyone encouraged me, except my guidance counselor; he just told me to drop out.

Anyhow, I busted my ass to graduate (barely) from high school, so that I could further my education and embark on a grand quest for knowledge in my particular area of interest.

However, when I reached WNEC, I discovered, much to my horror, that I was back in high school. Despite the fact that I could "major" in a subject, over two thirds of the classes that I would have to take in order to graduate were not in my "major."

Now, being that I'm not too bright, it seemed to me that this somewhat defeated the purpose of "majoring" in a subject at all. When I questioned the reasoning behind this situation, I was told that it was designed to make me a "well-rounded individual."

By now I was greatly confused. I had always thought that "making me a well-rounded individual" was the job of my high school, and that college was where I could apply my "well-roundedness" in a more focused way.

Obviously, someone had given me faulty information along the way.

What I found was not an institution devoted to a focused expansion of knowledge, but rather a factory designed to prepare me for the job market.

All of a sudden, the joke that I had heard about WNEC standing for We Never Entered College began to sound all too true. Additionally, the idea of students shaping the curriculum was met with mild amusement and genial denial.

Why do I feel such a need to express this opinion to you, my fellow students?

I feel the need because I've noticed that many of you disagree with me on this issue.

I'll be honest, it confuses me that students would want less control over their own education. I can't understand why people wouldn't want to make up their own minds about what they want to pay to learn.

Remember something here folks: you're paying for this experience. The fact that you support this institution with your countless thousands of dollars dictates that you own this institution, much in the manner that taxpayers own the country.

The person that signs the checks of the employees is the owner, and that person is you. How much tuition does an employee of WNEC pay anyway?

Now, I don't want you to get the wrong ideas about me. I enjoy the classes that I take. I have nothing but the utmost respect and admiration for the professors that teach them. My quarrel is not with them, but rather with the system that we are forced to exist in.

However, the system can be changed. I want to stress the fact that ultimately the power for change resides with the students, not the administration. The administration exists for the students, the students do not exist for the administration.

In closing, let me attempt to sum this column into something that makes sense. I am not advocating that we begin protest marches and forced occupation of campus buildings, not yet anyway.

What I am advocating is a heavier reliance by the administration upon the students in determining curriculum and college-wide policies.

I believe that students should have at least an equal role in formulating requirements and curriculum, for the simple reason that we are the ones that have to live with it and pay for it.

As an optimist, I must believe that all will work out for the best in the end. I love learning, and I love to be educated.

The simple joy I feel at just being able to go to college is almost enough to make me forget my complaints. Almost, but not quite.

I believe that the system is flawed, and that it is our responsibility to fix it. Allow me to leave you with a quote by the Italian artist and politician, Gianlorenzo Bernini: "Those who do not sometimes go outside the rules, never go beyond them."

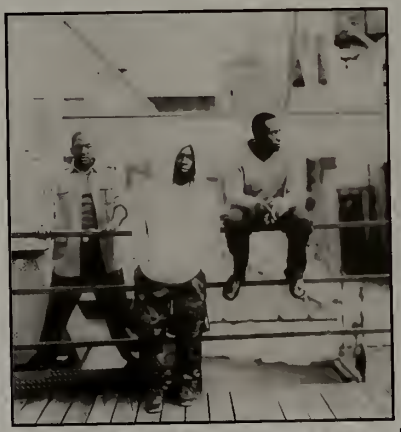
Sometimes change is hard to visualize, we must be willing to look beyond what we think we know in order to find it.

Craig Nakashian

westedit@hotmail.com

****The future in article submission.****

New Music From A Tribe Called Quest



"We wanted to go with a concept album and we wanted to stray from the normal, soundwise, and come with something new," says Ali Shaheed Muhammad, one third of A Tribe Called Quest.

He's talking about *The Love Movement*, the fifth album by the crew from St. Albans, Queens and Bed-Stuy, Brooklyn, who are recognized as one of the most innovative acts in hip-hop.

"But we wanted to make it fun at the same time," Ali adds, "and that's one of the amazing accomplishments of *The Love Movement:* it's a sonic and spiritual revolution on wax that manages to break new ground without ever losing its sense or playfulness."

There's nothing pretentious about *The Love Movement*, but in a genre that's just been through a lyrical warfare of "who can be harder than whom," the mere fact that ATCQ are rapping about love is a powerful act of Individuality.

"We were just thinking about all the current events that have taken place since our last album," explained Ali. "There's been a whole bunch of negative media; we lost a couple of great artists to violence. There's been a resurgence of materialism in hip-hop and in the world, so we just wanted to do something really relevant to mankind's existence."

While the airwaves continue to be flooded with repetitive themes and tired rhymes about designer clothes and luxury cars, ATCQ dared to go in the direction of real life.

"It's hard being a person who will swallow your anger for a moment to forgive somebody," says Ali. "It's easy to walk around all screwfaced, just thinking about yourself, acting like you're on this planet by yourself. But it's hard when you have to think about everyone around you. So that's a side that we try to show on this album ... When you're with your moms, it's not like, 'Yo! Moms! Look at this hundred thousand dollar time piece on my wrist.' That just isn't what people are like all the time. That's what this album is about. It's not that we're making love songs and trying to be The Spinners.'"

After hearing a few minutes of *The Love Movement*, one could not accuse the group of being soft. The album takes the idea of "keeping it real" to a whole new level.

"We're not looking for people to praise us and think we're Ghandi," says Ali. "We did this because this is the way we talk and relate to what's going on. This is how we feel about things. We go through things dealing with relationships that everyone else goes through. If the world latches on, it's cool. It would be nice and that's what we want. But if they don't get it, then we're gonna keep on being us and trying to express ourselves the only way we can because we're happy with what we put out."

ATCQ are known first and foremost as innovators, and they've earned the respect and celebrity status that promotes steady album sales (all of their albums have gone gold or platinum).

Ever since bursting onto the scene with *People's Instinctive Trials* and *Paths of Rhythm*, as part of the Native Tongues (along with De La Soul, Monie Love, The Jungle Brothers, Queen Latifah and Leaders of the New School), ATCQ has distinguished themselves with an abstract rapping style and an exceptional musical approach.

The group's second album, *The Low End Theory*, found them paired with legendary jazz bassist Ron Carter on a genre-expanding effort that fused Carter's acoustic bass phrases to a hard-flitting loop.

Midnight Marauders, the group's third album, upped the level of creative craftsmanship and lyrical inventiveness.

Beats, Rhymes and Life, the group's fourth album, earned the group Grammy nominations for Best Rap Album of the Year and Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group.

The majority of the songs on *The Love Movement* deal with love in its various forms, and the music is a movement of symphonic perfection. Love has many different forms, several of which get props over the course of *The Love Movement*'s 14 tracks.

The album is produced by The Ummah, which is Ali, Q-Tip and J.D. from Slum Village.

The album digs in with "Let's Start" which announces the group's new style. "It's just saying, come on everybody, let's get it going," explains Q-Tip. "Let's just say we do a lot of motivational work." The track has a perfectly spare beat that calls to mind the old Duke Ellington adage: "if it sounds good, it is." "That track gets you amped about the record," Ali adds, "and makes you say 'what?!'"

"Find A Way" is about unrequited love. "It's about a girl you're friends with but you're also In love with," explains Q-Tip. "And she'll do little things like flirt with you, and you'll be like, what's going on? When you're younger, if one girl doesn't work out, you're on to the next one. But as you get older you feel like you could really be with somebody."

"The Booty," is yet another get up, get down, freestyle record, while "Stepping Up" features Busta Rhymes and Redman. Busta's appearance is only natural, as his former group, Leaders of the New School, were close friends with ATCQ; Redman and ATCQ have long been mutual fans of ooe another. "When we see Redman, he's one of those people who's real," says Pliife. "He's like a cousin to us."

"Like It Like That" is about the experience of standing in the back of a club and really felling the beat. The lyrics are a freestyle about the power of music itself.

"Common Ground" is about trying to make a relationship work without trying to change the person you're in love with. "It's about a girl who you fall in love with and you think she's this perfect person," says Q-Tip. "Then all of these things start cropping up and you find out she's not perfect. But the song is telling her that you want to try to make it work anyway."

"For Moms" is an instrumental dedicated to mothers, and features guitarist Spanky, who has collaborated with D'Angelo and Toni Tony Tone.

"Muddy Ranks" is another of the album's upbeat freestyle records. "That's one of the records that is basically about getting the crowd hyped with a spontaneous freestyle," says Q-Tip. "And just enjoying ourselves onstage."

"Against The World," is about the way a guy and a girl are united under the spell of love, and vow to uphold that unity against any forces, seen or unseen.

"Love" is a self-explanatory track, focusing on the group's motivation. "We do this for the love,' says Q-Tip. "And in this

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Up With People Performance Cheesy, but Good

by Natalia Pisarcik
Staff Writer

It is over with.

The show that the college community has been boasting and ranting and raving about for the past few months now, that is.

That show, of course, was the heavily awaited Up With People performance. Upon arrival students didn't know what to make of the soon-to-be performance. Prior to the stage date, the WNEC community was confused over why a lone person would be standing motionless and expressionless in the middle of the campus center.

Generally we'd laugh or ignore it since what was on our minds at the time was, whether or not some actually loved us by sending us some mail. Or the video that would be played repetitively in the snack bar showing the performers singing and dancing.

WNEC students in the right minds were usually too busy figuring out the mystery meat lunch special than the cheesy promotional movie being broadcasted to them, or why a bunch of people in balloons were running around popping each other at the midnight madness.

That was just some of the hype delivered about the show. On the evening of November 14 and the afternoon of November 15, the Up With People performance was finally unveiled at the college's family weekend.

It was held in the AHLC, and the first night alone an estimated 1,200 people were aboard for the opening presentation.

Sunday afternoon had an estimated 700 viewers.

Before the actual "Roads" performance, cast members wandered around the audience, selling programs and entertaining. The stage appeared to be very inviting and hopeful. And it wasn't before long that the show began.

With the 150 cast members, the show started off with the performers as students at the International University. They were in their cultures class learning about, obviously, different cultures.

And the main story line of the play/performance dealt with the Ayiko Youth Center that the students were all a part of.

It also dealt with the harsh realities of our society, and how we treat institutions like these. Song and dance proclaimed the message of how we are all different, but we all share the same common goal — to live happily amongst one another.

Overall the performance was well done, although the premise reminded one of a "Save By the Bell" episode, with international characters on a Mickey Mouse Club set.

Families enjoyed themselves and the audience appeared to have a great time. Students after the show actually said the performance was good and exciting.

Some commented by saying the singing/dancing appeared a little cheesy, but the overall performance was great.

So there you have it.

Was it worth all the hype and money and whatever?

Well, yes, it was a good performance about important issues, with a nice and friendly cast. The only thing that should be said, though, is that this sort of performance should be aimed at the high school level, not mainly the college level. But without that in mind, the heavily anticipated show was a great part of this year's family weekend activities.

Golden Bears Hockey Team Improves

by Ryan O'Connor
Staff Writer

Western New England College could be on the verge of having an impressive first half start in this year's hockey season.

Looking back at last year's record reminds this year's team of what they need to accomplish on and off the ice. After a disappointing 7-13-3 record from a year ago, players are already optimistic about the upcoming season.

Coach Mike Badger has been realistic about the first two games. In a long season, consistency is needed. The teams two captains this season are senior Clay Strachen, and junior Jason Lacroix.

Lacroix contributing in both wins this season as he leads in points. WNEC's first two opponents were University of Scranton, and University of Salve Regina. The game against Scranton was closer than Salve Regina; the Bears defeated Scranton 6-4 and dominated Salve 7-2.

"This team already looks a lot stronger than last years, but the key to this season is to start off the season one game at a time," said junior Brian Berriault.

The two games also offered a glimpse at some seven new players on the roster. The team has shown that they play with unity. Lacroix, the leading scorer from last season, is back to his old ways as he and linemate Jeff "Daddy" Gilbert look to be a quick line.

The goaltending will be shared between junior Adam Hoban and Nate.

If the Golden Bears plan on making an early statement to the rest of the league, they must capitalize on the team's homestand. WNEC plays the next six out of seven games at home. Junior Chris Laramee mentioned, "Our toughest opponent on the schedule is in mid February against powerhouse UMASS, Dartmouth — that game will be the true test to see how good we really stand."

The next three home games are against Wentworth on Saturday November 14, Assumption College on Tuesday, November 17, and Nichols College on Thursday November 19th. The team needs your support, so throw on your snowsuit and gloves and pack your Peppermint Schnapps and Cocoa and head down to the Olympia Rink, located in West Springfield.

Standing left to right: Jen Mikule, Natalie Pisarcik, assistant coach Amy Romano, Katie Madden, Heather Partridge, Erica Yale, Jen Hill, Karen Gilbert, Julie Taro, Jackie Hicks, Candace Daly, Michelle Wemple, Catherine Symes, head coach Nancy Rivard. Kneeling: Milissa Witzszek, Emily Neale, Elena de Silva, Ashley Timmers, Mary Ryan, Deborah Lawlor, Kate Harrington.

Women's Field Hockey Wins Despite Losses

by Natalia Pisarcik
Staff Writer

Despite a losing record of 4-9, the women's field hockey team overall had a winning season.

With a late start to the season the team started off slow being handed loses for their first four games. It wasn't until October 4 that the team achieved a 1-0 victory over Salve Regina College.

With the boost of a win the team pressed on only to be tagged with several more loses.

The next lose was a disappointing one after falling to Framingham State 1-0 and losing next to the heavily powered Manhattanville College. WNEC rebounded with an exciting 1-0 overtime victory over a stunned Regis College, and a hard lose to Simmons College on a cold evening in downtown Boston.

The next game only gave WNEC another hard blow to the already wounded team with an extremely disappointing loss to Endicott College.

The last three games achieved 2 wins (against Eastern Connecticut State University and Elms College) and 1 loss to Worcester State College.

Even though this seasons field hockey teams record may not show much by the definition of a winning season, the women on the team worked extremely hard and were dedicated.

The team suffered many lqiuries, which in some instance cost the team some of its valuable players, and on many occasions the officials overseeing the games made clearly biased calls.

But this team refused to dwell on these hard loses and harsh calls, and would walk onto the playing field everyday with a winning attitude despite a losing record.

As someone once said, "It's not whether you win or lose, but whether you enjoy the game."

And in this sense, the field hockey did have a winning record this season.

SOCCER, from page 1

the good and the bad. They never gave up, and always believed in us."

The women's soccer team was also the victor, more often than not, due to an improvement in their style of play. They began to use the whole field more, which opened up more offensive scoring opportunities for them.

On defense, the Golden Bears "cleared the zone" by using the outer portion of the field, rather than up the middle.

DiTaranto stated that the only two losses her squad suffered this season could be attributed to kicking the ball up the center of the field, which made them more susceptible to giving up a goal to their opponents.

On a personal level, DiTaranto's goals were met this season. The halfback believed she played to the best of her ability, but that was not her main concern.

"My goal (and the team's goal) was to reach the ECAC championship," she said.

Halfback Lisa DiTaranto

The Golden Bears did reach the championship and dominated in the short post-season, as they did during the entire regular season.

DiTaranto noted, "This is the most exciting event that could ever happen; we proved that we can play with competition."

The Golden Bears will unfortunately be losing several of their players next season. The team will be without their three captains, who are graduating this year.

They may also be without DiTaranto, who is pursuing a nursing degree possibly at another institution. Nevertheless, the 1998 women's soccer team consisted of a remarkable group of athletes who knew what it took to win, and their accomplishments will certainly be cherished for a long time to come.

Men's and Women's Teams Bowl Themselves to Top of the League

After the first conference tournament of the 98-99 season, held on November 8, Western New England College's Men's and Women's Bowling teams found themselves at the top of the league standings.

This is not unusual for a bowling team that has a long tradition of excellence. This year's team, like teams of previous years, consists of many talented players.

Freshmen chemistry major Melissa Orazio led the women with a six game total of 1121, for a 186 average.

Junior English major Leana Monteiro, bowling on a mixed team agains a West Point cadet, convinced herself she could beat him when she did 24 pins in the first game of doubles.

While the victories were the result of a total team effort, there were several notable highlights that stood out.

Veteran Joe Weber, a junior math major, bowling on the day after his birthday, gave himself a present of a 725 and 680 series for 1405 total or an average of 234/game for the day.

Freshman electronic engineering major Rob Volk started off his college career with a 737 series.

Justin Godfrey, a junior business transfer, added 692 and 661 for a 1353 series.

Sophomore biology major David Mastropasqua added two 675 series for a 1350 total to round out some of the scores.

As of November 11, the league standing were as follows:

WNEC Men	**50.0**
WNEC Mixed A	**42.5**
WNEC Mixed B	**41.5**
Bentley	**36.5**
West Point	**16.5**
C. G. Academy	**10.5**
U. Conn. Mixed	**9.0**

Those interested in further information about WNEC's bowling program on a continuing basis are engouraged to check out the follow internet site: www.collegebowling.com.

Why You Don't See the Sports Articles You Want

A Message from the Sports Editor

by David Wainberg
Sports Editor

It has recently been brought to my attention by anonymous individuals that I am an unfair sports editor. They backed up their argument by indicating that only certain sporting teams on campus get coverage, while other teams are forgotten like a worn out old shoe.

As I briefly pondered a legitimate response to this reasonable accusation, the first point I made was a simple answer that required a more complex explanation. I told the students it may appear that some teams rarely get sports coverage is because I want to make people angry at me!

My belief is that if people are really that upset there is nothing to read about their favorite Western New England College team, they will eventually decide to be part of the staff and write. Before you start cursing me for making such an outlandish statement, please read further.

During my first two years as sports editor (this being my third) I made a numerous amount of fliers and passed them out to each floor in the quad, asking for sports writers. To my dismay, there was very little interest by both males and females.

A request for sports writers has been advertised many times in *The Westerner*, but was more or less ignored. Unfortunately, when I do find students interested in writing about Western New England sports, they write a few articles (if that) and decide they have grown weary of the idea.

In 1996, I took over the reign as sports editor because sports (like the entire newspaper) was going to be shut down, due to lack of interest by the students. Fortunately, the current staff has dedicated writers, but the sports section only has one writer who concentrates solely on sports.

People who know me realize that I am a humble individual, and the purpose of this article is not so the college population can sarcastically say to me, "Oh poor Dave, we feel so sorry for you," but to make it known that each team will get the coverage they deserve if there are more writers!

The most important point I want to make is that students do not have to be William Shakespeare II to write sports, they simply need to be motivated to write.

Although I have attempted to get students interested, true motivation can come only from the heart — something I alone cannot instill in people.

Stawasz, Kaneris Named Athletes of the Week

Junior Marissa Stawasz and senior Andy Kaneris were selected as Western New England College Athletes of the Week for the week ending November 8.

Stawasz, the staring goalie for the women's soccer team, was incredible during the ECAC Metro Championships that were played in Madison, NJ on November 7 and 8.

She made nine save in a first round victory against top seed Western Connecticut State, including a huge save in the final minute of the game that preserved the 3-1 win.

She made 8 saves in a 2-0 win over second seed Drew in the Championship game.

Marissa, a junior, is a marketing major and the daughter of Michael and Maxine Stawasz of West Springfield.

Kaneris had his fifth consecutive 100-yard rushing game of the season that week, in a 41-28 win over MIT.

He finished the game with 169 yards and three touchdowns on 24 carries.

He was also named the ECAC New England Division III Offensive Player of the Week.

This is the second time he was named the WNEC Male Athlete of the Week.

Kaneris attended Island Trees High SChool where he played football and ice hockey, and ran track.

He is an international management major and the son of John Kaneris of Merrick.

Marissa Stawasz

WNEC College Football Defeats Fitchburg, 24-17

Sports Information Office

Senior tailback Andy Kaneris ran for a school-record 240 yards and a touchdown, while senior receiver Mike Roach had 125 yards receiving and two touchdowns to lead the Western New England College Golden Bears to a 24-17 victory over Fitchburg State College in a New England Football Conference tilt Saturday, November 14.

WNEC, which finishes the season 5-4, got on board first with a 31 yard field goal by Kevin Eknanian with 12:59 left in the first half.

Fitchburg, 3-7, tied it on a Greg McClintock 40 yarder with 9:13 left in the second

The Falcons took a 10-3 lead into the intermission when McClintock caught a 24 yard scoring strike from sophomore quarterback Nino DeCarolis.

The Golden Bears took command of the game from the start of the second half. After forcing the Falcons to punt on their first possession of the half, junior quarterback Steve Conuel hit Roach on the first play for a 72-yard touchdown.

Western New England College safety Pete Sellazo recorded one of the five interceptions against Fitchburg's DeCarolis on the next Fitchburg possession and returned it to the Falcon 20.

Two plays later Conuel connected with Roach from five yards out to give WNEC a 17-10 lead.

Golden Bear cornerback Brian Luce set a school record with three interceptions in the game, and his third one set up a 14 yard touchdown run by Kaneris with 8:58 left in the game to give WNEC a 24-10 lead.

The Falcons didn't go quietly, however. After the Kaneris TD, the Falcons drove 57 yards on five plays, capped by a 6 yard pass from DeCarolis to sophomore Tanner Grove.

On their next possession, WNEC drove all the way to the Fitchburg three before Kaneris fumbled the ball away with 1:30 to play.

DeCarolis hit Grove and McClintock with passes that brought the ball out to midfield. However, WNEC cornerback Sean Quealy ended the threat by intercepting DeCarolis at the Golden Bear five yard line.

"We have ridden the backs of Kaneris and Roach all season," said WNEC head coach Gerry Martin. "Again these guys came up big for us. I told the team when we were 2-4 a few weeks ago that we could run the table and finish with a winning record. The games weren't easy but we did just that. They could have rolled over and played dead when we hit the bad stretch in the middle of the season, but they showed how much heart they have and won them all. I am so proud of them."

The consecutive winning seasons is a first for WNEC since it began varsity football in 1981.

GAME STATS

	FSC	WNEC
First Downs	16	22
Rushing	39-151	49-229
Passing (att-comp-int)	27-13-5	28-12-1
Passing Yards	165	159
Total Yards	316	388
Punting	5-142	6-179
Average	28.4	29.8
Penalties	12-123	12-96
Fumbles-Lost	1-1	2-1
Third Downs	1 of 10	3 of 10
Fourth Downs	0 of 1	0 of 1
Possession	26:25	33:35

Total Attendance: 1013

TRIBE, from page 8

song I ran down a list of a whole bunch of things that we may take for granted, just little things that we really love. Things you love because they make you happy, like a cool breeze, or a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, or a hot day — little things like that. Things that people tend to overlook in life and should pay more attention to and appreciate more. It's also about our profession: we really appreciate what we do for a living. And so many people have said that we make them happy and we have a lot of love for them."

The album closes with "Rock Rock Y'All" which introduces up and coming lyricists Jane Doe, Punchline, Wordsworth and Mos Def.

ATCQ's greatest innovation to date is the blending of phat, unsual beats and rhythms with lyrics with real spiritual power. "A lot of this album has a very upbeat tone," says Q-Tip. "It's aggressively fun, and it's aggressively positive."

SLEPIAN, from page 6

The reasons for an unwanted pregnancy are varied and many, from not using contraceptive methods to having those contraceptive methods fail. No one says "I think I'll get pregnant and have an abortion."

Most women I have encountered are deeply saddened by their situation and readily admit they never thought they would even consider an abortion.

Do not judge these women, because you are not them and you don't know what you would do given their situation.

Remember that an unplanned pregnancy is not always an unwanted pregnancy.

Many people have been faced with unplanned pregnancies but are able to manage; others are not.

Dr. Slepian should not have died, because he delivered comprehensive health care.

Without health care providers like Dr. Slepian, we might all find ourselves being dicatated to by a person who "knows better" than we do about our own personal lives.

Kathy Rald
Nurse Practitioner
Director of Health Services

The next issue of The Westerner will be released on December 11, two weeks after the Thanksgiving break.
The deadline for submissions is December 4.

CLASSIFIEDS

WNEC Update

Dear Michelle,

On behalf of myself and The Ronald McDonald House I would like to thank you and your Criminal Justice Association for your help in helping us help our families here at the "House That Love Built."

It is always a nice feeling when kids help kids and that is what your classmates at Western New England College are doing....

Suzanne Herlihy
Volunteer Coordinator
Rondal McDonald House

WNEC Update

On Feb. 11th WNEC will hold it's First Annual Talent Show. Auditions for groups in all categories will be Nov. 30th at 7pm in the Music and Dance room. Please contact Celia Norcross at 782-1203 for more information. Help sponsor a new tradition.

WNEC Update

WNEC's Internet Association is offering web paging services to all clubs and organizations on campus. With a $100 fee you can receive up to 3 pages for the site. Contact by way of mailbox or at mars.wnec.edu/~ia

WNEC Update

Student Senate wants your imput on which software you would like to see in the Cyber Café. Drop all comments in the Senate mailbox.

WNEC Update

Don't forget that November 24th is the last day you can withdraw from a course with a "W" issued.

WNEC Update

Thanksgiving Recess runs from Wednesday Nov. 25th. through Sunday Nov. 29th.

WNEC Update

There will be an Outing Club meeting for all members and for those interested - Wednesday, Dec. 2nd at 7:00 in S100. Bring money for special opportunities.

WNEC Update

Professional Performing Group - "Improbable Players" to perform "I'll Never Do That" - Dining Room B at 7 pm on Tuesday Dec. 1st. Refreshments served. Join the Fun! Sponsored by CAB, and the Junior Class.

Festival of Lights

Come celebrate the Holidays with the lighting of the trees.

December 1st in the Campus Center Mall Area at 5pm.

Sponsored by Student Senate and Campus Ministry

WNEC Update

Notice to all Clubs and Organizations. It is time to start making use of your campus resources! Advertise for your club's events in *The Westerner*'s Classifieds section under WNEC Updates. There is no charge! Just send your information to Student Publications (across from WNEK) or call Jen at 782-1581. Line ads and small display ads are available.

WNEC Update

Don't forget there is money to be won - if you submit your color artwork now. $150 certificate to the first place winner of this year's cover contest for *The Review of Art & Literature*. Bring submissions to the Student Publications Office.

OPEN MIC COFFEE HOUSE
Tuesday, Dec 1st
8 - 10pm

in the People's Place

Come perform - or just relax before finals

For Sale

2 acoustic linear speaker system - 200 watts each. Asking $50 each. Call 789-2126 for info.

For Sale

Official Outing Club water bottles are now on sale for only $1.00 each. Call Ryan at x4453 or leave orders in the club mail box.

For Sale

'92 Suzuki DR350S. Dual purpose, 2600 miles, SuperTrapp exhaust, jet kit, Progressive suspension, many extras. Prof. maintained. Asking $2100. Call Scott @ 739-7905.

Unwrapped unisex toys needed for U&ME's Annual X-Mas Party!

Please drop off all donations at the Campus Center Diversity Office (2nd floor) by Thursday, Dec 3rd.

all donations greatly appreciated!

Help Wanted

Women between ages of 21- 34 needed to donate eggs. Must be maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Compensation of $3,000 for time, energy and effort of donation. Please call Dr. Angela Figueroa at 1-888-494-4060 for an information packet.

Help Wanted

The Westerner is looking to fill staff positions for the current school year. Please inquire at the Student Publications Office or call Wayne Barr at 782-1580. Assistant Editor, L/A Section Editor, and Staff Writers available. Comp skills a plus. Also looking for contributing writers.

Help Wanted

The Review of Art & Literature needs your submissions now! Both written works and visual art. Please drop everything off at the Student Publications Office.

Help Wanted

Volunteers Needed for U&ME Christmas Party. Friday, Dec. 11th in DRA from 2-4 pm. Contact Cherise Coombs at 782-1594.

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Local Event

The Lesbian Bazaar: Arts, Crafts, & Community. Sat. 12/5, 10 - 5, Northhampton Center for the Arts. Performances, demos, workshops.

Local Event

The Australian-Irish dance hit "Galeforce Dance" comes to the Springfield Symphony Hall Sunday, Nov. 22nd at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are $25 and $35. Presenting some of the most highly recognized Irish dancers worldwide.

Local Event

Award winning poets James Tate and Dara Wier will read to benefit the Northampton Center for the Arts on Friday, Nov. 20th at 8pm. Admission sliding $5 - $10.

Local Event

Monday, 11/30 at 4:30 Jean Grossholtz, Professor Emeritus from Mount Holyoke College will give a talk entitled *Writing Political Biography: Notes from an Activist* - in the Dickinson House Living Room at the Mount Holyoke College campus.

Local Event

Arriving at Springfield Symphony Hall for two performances, *"Big"* brings the perfect holiday treat. Saturday Nov. 28th at 3pm and 8pm. Tickets through Civic Center Box Office and Ticketmaster outlets.

Local Event

American Cancer Society Benefits 13th Annual Christmas Concert - Sunday, Dec 6th at 3:30pm at Saint George Cathedral in Memorial Square. Featuring Westfield State Wind Symphony, Bay Path College Chorale, Greater Springfield Grand Chorus and the Freedom Choir. $5 admission.

CLASSIFIEDS

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THE WESTERNER

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Construction Site Meets Deadlines

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

What began last summer as a foundation has now turned into what some say will be the best dorm on campus. The new Living and Learning Center, located behind Windham Hall, consists of three floors with two wings, and a core to each.

When you walk up one of the paths leading to the area between Windham and the Living and Learning Center, a mall area with picnic tables and benches will greet you.

Continuing on to the entrance of the Living and Learning Center, ascend the steps and you will find yourself looking into a large furnished lounge.

This is the core of the new building. From here students, whether they live in the building or not, can access the computer lab upstairs, any of the numerous conference and multipurpose rooms throughout the three stories, or the two multimedia rooms located in the basement.

One of the features that Al Letourneau, Director of Facilities Management, pointed out was the elevator, making the Living and Learning Center completely handicap accessible. This is something that very few buildings at WNEC have.

Scaffolding is up and ready for bricklaying on the Living and Learning Center site

If you do happen to live there, you will have access to one of the two wings on any of the three floors. This access will be by your student ID card, like the dorms are presently. This is to ensure that only the people who are actually living in the wing are able to get into it.

When you enter one of these wings you will see a Common area, a room that will be furnished with plush chairs, possibly for some entertainment. At the opposite side of this room is a separate computer area with a glass wall and a large window to allow natural light to enter the room.

Off this room are four separate living areas with two bathrooms each. Three two-person dorm rooms will share these areas. All

See BUILDING, page 3

Barnes Concerned about Crosswalk Safety

by Wayna Barr
Editor

On Tuesday, December 1, at 6:50 in the evening, a student was sideswiped on the Herman crosswalk as she was walking home to her apartment at Gateway. According to Gary Barnes, director of Public Safety, the student stepped out in front of a car, and the driver did not see her. Fortunately, she only suffered minor scrapes and bruises.

This, however, is the second accident to occur under these circumstances in the last two months. Previously, a male student, crossing from Emerson to Gateway, was struck by an elderly gentleman in his seventies or eighties. The student, who was wearing dark clothing, "apparently walked right out in front of [the driver]," said Barnes. "He was hit and knocked for some-

See CROSSWALK, page 4

The Herman crosswalk, with barrel in place

Faculty Divided over New Mission Statement

by Weyne Barr
Editor

If you looked around the cluttered office of your academic advisor as you registered for next semester's courses, you may have seen it, tacked to a bulletin board or poking out from beneath a pile of corrected papers and exams. Early last month, copies of Western New England College's new mission statement were distributed to the faculty at two meetings in Sleith Hall.

The new mission statement, produced by the Strategic Planning Committee as the embodiment of the strategic plan, is the result of over two years' work. After a campus-wide meeting in December of 1996, and several days working with an outside consultant, the Committee "started to work," said Dr. Anthony Caprio, president of Western New England College.

The Strategic Planning Committee is composed entirely of faculty members, Caprio said. "I intentionally put faculty members in charge of the strategic plan — I didn't put administrators in charge. I wanted the faculty to be fully represented."

That way, if faculty members did not like something about the plan, they could express their opinions without going through administrative barriers, Caprio added.

"I didn't think [the committee] would come up with a mission statement, but I was delighted that they did ... they actually came up with a plan and a mission statement, which was terrific," he said. "That took just under one year to do."

The old mission statement has not been entirely abandoned, Caprio said, but has actually been reworked in the new mission statement, although "the language is more cogent, more modern."

The new statement, divided into four sections, begins with a "purpose" claiming that the College "prepares students to bring multiple perspectives of understanding to help them achieve balance and flexibility as proactive solution seekers in the rapidly changing global environment in which they work and live."

Already, some developments have been made in the spirit of the strategic plan. The School of Business, for example, has put together an experimental curriculum for incoming freshmen. "The proposal uses all the language of the mission statement and the strategic plan," said Caprio. "On some level it has already quickly penetrated the psyche of the place."

Some faculty members, Caprio admitted, did not like the language of the mission statement. "Some said, 'is this the right word,' and some people objected to 'proactive' or preferred 'problem solvers' to 'solution seekers' ... they got bogged down with some of the details," he said.

Nevertheless, Caprio believes the faculty has been open to the new mission statement.

"Whenever I heard people express their opinion, they spoke positively," he said.

Some faculty members, however, have reservations about the plan and its practical implementation.

"I think it is unknown whether there is broad general support for the strategic plan — I do not think that's a known thing," said Professor Walter Coombs of the School of Arts and Sciences.

"Many faculty here feel that their votes have not been counted," he said, and criticized the purpose of the mission's "purpose" for being "relatively meaningless."

"I don't see how that describes what I do," he said, "or how it explains to students what it is we wish them to do."

Among the mission statement's more controversial elements are its commitments to "learning beyond the classroom" and "collaboration and synergy among the Schools of the College." Coombs, a self-confessed traditionalist, acknowledges that there are some appropriate interdisciplinary fields — English and history, for example — but feels that many areas of knowledge are too different for integration.

"I don't know what it does to the structure of a course," he said of interdisciplinary education. "I don't know that it is a good thing to be paraded as part of a mission."

Education outside of the classroom, he added, is inevitable. "You are going to have experiences outside of the classroom whether you're in a classroom or not ... you come to college for the classroom," he said.

Ultimately, Coombs and some other faculty members find the mission statement to be "someone else's vision."

"How can you sign on to a mission, a strategic plan, if you don't know what it means?" Coombs asked.

Other faculty members, like Professor Sara Weinberger, are optimistic about the strategic plan, and believe it will draw together the different schools at Western New England College.

"The College is too small to have three separate schools," Weinberger said. "There is a lot of competition for students and status that is not really necessary."

The "synergistic educational environment" proposed by the mission statement is practical and useful, Weinberger believes, since even engineering and business students are required to take core courses in the School of Arts and Sciences.

"In order to capture students' attention, you need to make learning relevant for them," she said. "You need to start where the student is."

Learning outside the classroom is also essential, she said, since Western New England College "can't give students much of an experience of diversity ... we're pretty homogenous on campus."

The vague or ambiguous wording of the mission, which has raised many questions among faculty members, is actually an asset, according to Weinberger. "Mission statements are supposed to be vague ... so the college and faculty will have flexibility to meet that mission," she said. "I might not have chose some of the language. You can spend your time squabbling over some of the language, or say, 'what is the spirit of it?'"

Hopefully the mission statement and strategic plan will help build a sense of community, Weinberger added.

"We're changing the culture of the College, so there's going to be a lot of work," she said.

Caprio, for his part, hopes the mission statement will help sharpen the focus of the College, and define it in the larger community in which it exists.

"There ought to be something special about Western New England College, and by virtue of having the kind of schools that it has, the education that any student experiences really ought to be in-

See MISSION, next page

Vandalism at the Law Center Stirs Up Controversy, Concern

by Samanthe Lussier
Staff Writer

The weekend of November 14, an intruder entered the Law Center and cut symbols that resembled swastikas into a microwave and windows in the faculty lounge area. These symbols were small and resembled "reverse swastikas" or mirror image swastikas.

So far the Law School administration has handled this problem. The Tuesday after the damage occurred, the Dean of the Law School invited various members of the community to tour the facility and assess the damage. These people included Springfield City Council members, the chief of Public Safety at WNEC, and Rabbi Gurland of Campus Ministry.

According to Dean Dunn, the Law School also held student meetings and issued public statements about the damage to let the community know that it is an intolerable act. Soon after the damage occurred the vandalized items were replaced, according to *Lex Brevis*, the Law School newspaper.

Different members of the college community have assessed the damage in various ways. Dean Dunn felt the damage was very serious and offensive due to the historic nature of the swastika. He feels the best way to prevent this from occurring again in the future is to increase security at the Law School.

Rabbi Gurland believes it is not a major problem and that it resembles a random act of vandalism done by people who do not understand the meaning of the Holocaust. Gurland feels this way because there is no history of hate crime groups, like the KKK, in this area. As the Chair of the Human Rights Commission of Springfield, Gurland often sees this type of behavior.

He feels the best way to prevent this from occurring again is for public officials to condemn the behavior. Gurland also feels this is a perfect opportunity for public school teachers to mention the vandalism and condemn this behavior.

Golden Bear Pep-Band Comes to WNEC

by Todd Zern
Contributing Writer

Is everyone ready to hear the music come alive? With a lot of drive, determination, and dedication, the Golden Bear Pep-Band is finally on its feet and ready to make some noise.

After a full semester of organizing, planning, patience, and flexibility, the Pep-Band Organizing Committee, comprised of nine dedicated musicians, has together created Western New England College's first instrumental group.

The initial rehearsals have already begun, and a director has been officially hired to assist driving the group to its ground breaking year.

As one can see, it's no longer a vision or a dream — it's a reality.

As a whole, the Golden Bear Pep-Band's purpose is to provide a musical outlet to those musicians who would like to continue their musical interests, and to provide athletic venues with entertainment and suppurt.

On top of being directly involved with the Pep-Band, the group will also provide its services and resources for those musicians who are looking to initiate their own instrumental groups or would like to continue their individual interests. The Pep-Band hopes to be the musical connection to the WNEC community.

For the Pep-Band itself, all musicians are welcome to participate. Currently, the band is still in the need for brass instruments, specifically trumpets, trombones, and other low-tone instruments.

Starting in the spring semester, the band will be rehearsing twice a week, primarily on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in the Music and Dance Room from 6:45pm to 9:00pm.

The band's goal is to perform for this years' home basketball season, and other venues that may come along.

Once again, it's a reality, and the band is ready to make history! The band invites any musician to become involved and assist in it's ground breaking year.

If anyone has any questions, they can be addressed to the *Pep-Band Organizing Committee* at WNEC Box 3355 or at tzern0@wnec.edu.

The music is alive, and the Pep-Band is ready to make some noise!

BUILDING, from page 1

of the rooms in this building are designed with large windows to allow for more natural light to filter into the building.

Letourneau commented that there is "more space for the individual" in the new dorm than there is in any of the others. He continued to say, "I'd like to be living there myself."

But why do we need such an elaborate dorm? David Kruger, Vice President of Financial Affairs, said that this building isn't only a dormitory. The multimedia rooms were designed for the "most amount of flexibility."

Those, along with the multipurpose rooms, provide more space for campus events. They could be used for anything from a Friday night movie, to a place to meet for a study session.

Kruger also said that while there is a slow increase in enrolment, there is not going to be a drastic jump in the number of students on campus next year. However, there is a drastic increase in the number of students living on campus, and the college is hoping that this new dorm will open up some space in Gateway Village for the Law Students.

A view from the entrance to one of the wings. Note the large window on the far side of the room, to allow for natural light. This room will be the Common Area.

The Living and Learning Center is a "different concept than any other residence hall that we have," Kruger pointed out, and he feels that the design will help form a "sense of community" among its residence.

Both Letourneau and Kruger agree that the project is on track, and construction should be finished by June of this year. It will be ready for students to move into by the start of fall semester in '99. Letourneau points out that the roof is basically finished, and once the windows are in place the building will be watertight to allow for continued work during the winter.

This will be the first new dormitory to be built in close to twenty-five years, and Kruger couldn't help but smile when he said, "I think it's pretty exciting."

MISSION, from previous page

fluenced by the fact that we consist of these different kinds of schools," he said. "We've got these components, so therefore our education ought to reflect that."

The "components" may be used toward the creation of special degrees, he speculated — perhaps fusing the Law and Business Schools to create an NBA and law degree in a single package, for example.

While faculty opinion remains divided — to what extent is uncertain — the President hopes the plan will be successful. "Every discipline has a way of thinking, and to bring that way of thinking into any course that's not normally related to that field — that's the advantage we have here."

Faculty and Staff Perform *A Christmas Carol*

by Natalie Pisarcik
Staff Writer

It's the holiday season once again, and what is the holiday season without Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*?

This season brough for the first time what will hopefully become an annual event: the performance of the faculty and staff members doing the short classic holiday play.

The presentation was sponsored by the Office of Residence Life.

Involved in the performance were Greg Michael (as the Narrator), Michael Wiersma (as Fred and the boy), Mark Coffey (as Ebenezer Scrooge), Charles Fish (as Bob Cratchit), Tom Wozniak (as the first gentleman, Ghost of Christmas Past, and Man #2), Emmett Barcalow (as the second gentleman, Belle's husband, Tiny Tim, and Man #1), Larry Field (as Jacob Marley, Fezzwig, and Peter), Maureen Keizer (as Belle and Lady #2), Kathy Reid (as the Ghost of Christmas Present and Sarah), and Sue Bruno (as Martha and Lady #3).

Resident Life's Beth Hill was in charge of sound effects and doubled as the Ghost of Christmas in the near future, or what simply appeared to be the grim reaper.

Tom Wozniak, Marilyn Pelsosi, Charles Fish, and Michael Wiersma at the performance

Mark Coffey was excellent with his performance as Scrooge, and Larry Field also gave a stunning performance.

Maureen Keizer was all set and ready with props to support her performance — especially the little hat that she wore.

Many thought it comical to see these professors and staff members try to sing Christmas songs during the performance up on the small stage in the People's Place.

The humming performances were especially hysterical — especially the wind sound effects and moaning.

Overall it was a very delightful performance, and a big hand went out to all the faculty and staff that participated.

There however was a sad turnout of students, however. Some students said that they hope Resident Life will promote the event better next year, since they would have enjoyed it.

The crowd, consisting of faculty members, gave the performers a warm round of applause to show their appreciation for an entertaining afternoon.

Are you interested in writing for *The Westerner*?

[illegible] ter will bring some changes to the staff, making certain positions available. If you are inter- [illegible] per, call 782-1580, or e-mail westedit@hotmail.com. Positions [illegible]

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Student Thoughts Wanted!

Your answers will not be published!

The Human Relations Committee needs your views to address the issues at a faculty and staff seminar in January. Thank you for your assistance.

1. Have you ever been embarrassed because of what

___ professors have said in or outside of class?
___ other students have said in or outside of class?
___ staff/employees of WNEC have said?

Explain___ _____

2. Have you ever felt discriminated against

___ by a professor or professors?
___ by another student or students?
___ by a staff member/employee or staff members/employees of WNEC?

Explain _____

OPTIONAL. Name _____ Telephone _____

Please cut out along the dotted line, fold, staple/tape and return to an RA, Yvonne Boyle, Bonni Alpert, or Donna Utter (School of Arts & Sciences, ground floor of Emerson)

Engineering Students Build Snowman Before Winter

It hadn't yet snowed, but students wandering the grounds of WNEC on the week preceding Thanksgiving break found a snowman, complete with shades and charcoal grin.

The snowman was the handiwork of engineering majors Paul Doyan, Jon Luke, and Jeff Smith.

The three students, bored before the break, made the snowman with shavings from the local ice skating rink.

Seniors Paul Doyan, Jon Luke, and Jeff Smith pose with snowman

CROSSWALK, from page 1

thing like 20 yards. It's amazing that it wasn't more serious than it was."

What strikes Barnes is the similarities between the incidents. "In both cases, the M.O., as we say, was the same ... So we have two identical accidents where we have these three things that were involved."

In both cases, the drivers were elderly, it was dark outside, and the students did not check to make sure the cars would stop.

"In the 16 Acres area we have a lot of elderly people who can't see at night, or can't see as well as they used to be able to see," he said. "We've been very lucky, but it's just a matter of time."

Barnes is particularly worried that future accidents may be more serious since many students do not seem to exercise enough caution when using the crosswalks.

"If you go out there and stand, you'll see that time and time again they step out into that crosswalk and don't even look to see if the car is going to stop," he said.

In an effort to reduce the hazard of crossing Wilbraham Road, the Public Safety Department has "made substantial improvements over the last three or four years," said Barnes. "We used to have just a crosswalk. Now we've improved the painting of the crosswalk. We've put up lights, and we put barrels up. We also have signs on top of the barrels, and flashing lights on top of the signs."

One problem the department has faced, however, is the removal of the barrels by student pranksters. Usually the barrels are found in [the Gateway apartments]. "That's a continuous problem," Barnes sighed. "If you take a barrel you could cause an injury to a fellow student.

Meanwhile, Barnes is trying to address the problems in other ways. "What we're looking at now is to improve lighting even further ... we want to light up that whole crosswalk area as best we can," he said. To that end, Public Safety is applying for a grant to improve the area.

Barnes is also working with the 16 Acres Association to pass the word to area residents to be careful driving around the crosswalks.

"We're trying to get the word out to students to be careful when you use that crosswalk," Barnes added. Officers may be passing out fliers to students in the crosswalk at designated times.

"Of course, if you're in the crosswalk and you're struck, you didn't cause the accident," Barnes said. "But in reality, we have to be careful ... it's dangerous — especially at night."

Club Feature

The Peer Education Network: What It Is, and What It Isn't

For those of you who may not know, the Peer Education Network is a diverse group of students who promote informed decisions about pertinent health-related topics through active listening, programming, exciting events/activities, and written materials.

We are a lively group of students who believe in honest discussion about health issues, and we believe that college students are capable of having fun without abusing alcohol.

We are not prohibitionists — we support a variety of choices that don't cause harm, and encourage others to do the same. We believe all students have the right to feel safe and comfortable on this campus.

This semester we devised a campaign for Alcohol Awareness Week, "Trust the Truth", supporting the data from the CORE survey conducted last semester, that most students do in fact make healthy choices.

We had a table on the mall offering fortune cookies and other free gifts to anyone who filled out leaves for our tree; one with a positive decision surrounding drinking, and another with a negative consequence caused by their or someone else's drinking.

In addition, our table offered students a chance to try out the new Alcohol 101 CD-ROM, an interactive "game" that allows the user to explore a party scene and see what effects different choices might have on them and others.

Also this semester, some members of PEN attended the National Peer Education Conference in Washington, D.C.

The conference allowed WNEC's Peer Educators to see what colleges around the country are doing at their schools and to gain ideas for what we can do at WNEC.

Next semester we plan on sponsoring a Retro/Seventies-Eighties Dance Party, so watch for that, as well as our Tie-Dye tee shirts on the mall during Spring Week.

We encourage all students to attend our events and to check out our campaigns. Our meetings are currently held every Tuesday night from 6-7:30 in the Fireside Lounge. We have an open-door policy, and all are welcome to share their ideas and be a part of our group.

Academic Feature

Western New England College to Offer Pre-Physician Assistant Program

News Services

On December 10, 1998, Western New England College and the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences entered into an agreement which will further the two institutions' long-standing educational collaboration.

At 12:30 p.m. Thursday, Dr. Anthony Caprio, president of WNEC, and Dr. Charles Monahan, president of MCP/AHS, signed the documents making the new Pre-Physician Assistant/Physician Assistant Studies Program a reality.

The new program will be offered in the Fall of 1999.

The first three years of the six-year program will be conducted at WNEC, while the final three will be offered at the MCP/AHS campus in Boston.

Successful candidates will receive a Bachelor of Science degree from WNEC at the end of the fourth year and a Master's Degree in Physician Assistant Studies from MCP/AHS.

This is the second program collaboration between the two colleges. Since 1979, WNEC and MCP/AHS have been offering a Pre-Pharmacy Pharmacy program.

"This collaborative effort between Western New England College and the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences demonstrates the extent to which two institutions can develop an alliance which is mutually advantageous, while serving students to fulfill their education objectives," said Dr. Caprio.

Physician Assistants perform a number of duties in medical practice, including conducting interviews and physical examinations, screening results of laboratory diagnostic studies, and selecting and implementing treatment plans, among others.

Advice Column

Ask Sandy & Rizzo ...

(Sandy and Rizzo are The Westerner's advice columnists. It may not be good, but it's definitely advice.)

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

I have a little problem. My roommates asked me to go to New York City on New Year's Eve, and my boyfriend doesn't want me to go. He wants to spend New Year's together since this is our first one as a couple (we've been together for five months). I really want to go to New York with them but I do not want to make him mad. Help me!

— Bummed out

Did you ask your boyfriend to go with you to New York? Maybe he is just hurt because he did not get an invite. There is no reason why you cannot party in New York with your roommates and your boyfriend together.

If you ask him to go with you and he says no, try to compromise. Maybe he'd be more interested in First Night Boston. If he won't compromise, then do what you want to do. Don't let anyone force you into anything.

— Sandy

There is no compromise when it comes to New York City on New Year's Eve. Nothing compares to Times Square! Invite him, but if he says no, forget 'im. Don't, I repeat DON'T miss out on this opportunity. I know it is a romantic holiday, but if he can't bear it, then I am sure you will have fun without him. Tell him you will buy him one of those silly "Happy New Year" hats and you'll say hi to Dick Clark for him!

*** Rizzo*

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

My roommate is driving me nuts. She acts like my mom and bosses me around! She goes into my desk and uses my tapes and stamps. The last straw was when she used up my laundry detergent after using up her own. I know these are small things, but I just can't deal with them. What should I do?

— Annoyed

If you are having serious roommates problems you should talk to your RA. Maybe she can switch you into a different room over the semester break.

— Sandy

Put something on the back of your stamps that will make her tongue wither and die. Change your detergent to bleach, so the next time she uses it, her clothes will be ruined. Hide the tape in your underwear draw (be sure to wrap it up in a nice pair!) If she finds that, then she has really been rummaging through your stuff. If she takes the tape from inside your underwear,-she deserves to use it! Make her afraid to use your stuff. I'm sure that will change the situation.

*** Rizzo*

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

I have been seeing my girlfriend for three months now. I want to give her something nice for Christmas, but I don't want to overdo it and scare her away. What would be a really good gift for a really great girl?

— Need Advice

You're so sweet! Okay, what would be a good Christmas present ... maybe you should give her a stuffed animal. It should be something college-age girls would like, say a Pooh Bear or a funny dog. Even if she doesn't like stuffed animals, she will like this one because you gave it to her!

Or if she really dislikes stuffed animals, give her a nice hat, mitten, or a scarf set. Everybody likes to be warm.

—Sandy

A STUFFED ANIMAL??!! A HAT? How old are we, Sandy? If my boyfriend gave me some impersonal gift or some silly mittens, he would be out in the cold so fast. I guess then he could use the scarf set! Stuffed animals are useless — any real woman knows that. They are nothing but dust collectors. I would give a much more creative gift there, buddy. Try cooking her a special dinner with roses in her dish as dessert. Time is always the best gift. Or you could get really creative ... how about an evening at Creative Pines? The Hanger Five Room is my personal favorite (ask for Mark and tell him you know Rizzo, he'll give you a great deal!) Or how about that Hot Tub joint in Northampton? That is romantic, creative, and fun! That will knock her socks off!

***Rizzo*

If you have a question for Sandy and Rizzo, send it to Box 1234.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

Final exams — these two words reverberate in the minds of all true college students, echoing fear as the dreaded week draws closer. Some students have rituals they perform to prepare themselves — and some, one imagines, work better than others. Judge for yourself.

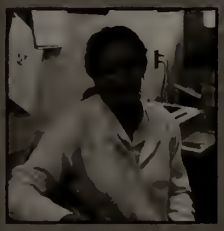
... How Are You Preparing for Final Exams?

"I'm going to lock myself in my room."
— Alicia Keating (right)

"I'm not going to study."
— Michele Cinkewicz (left)

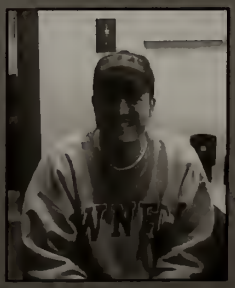
"Spending time with Ben at Mory's."
— D. C. (right)

"Yeah, me too!"
— Ben (left)



"I don't have any finals during finals week. I have all papers and presentations, which will be done in chronological order starting this weekend."
— Leslee Larrivee

"I don't have any finals!"
— Jen Casceillo



"I'm a procrastinator. I plan to study grudgingly. I'm not looking forward to it but it will all come together in the end. Always has, always will."
— Todd Zern

Prosecutors Gang Up On 11-Year-Old Girl, and Win

Lacresha Murray was 11 years old when she carried 2-1/2 -year-old Jayla Belton into the hospital. Jayla died of a ruptured liver, and now Lacresha is 14, serving a 25-

Josh, Inspissated

year prison sentence for inflicting the injuries that led to the little girl's death.

Travis County, Texas Medical Examiner Roberto Bayardo ran a hurried autopsy on Jayla, and, without using many of the finer instruments available to him, concluded that the little girl had been beaten shortly before her death.

Doctors at the hospital said that there was no way Jayla could have survived more than a few minutes with her liver in the condition it was in.

They told police that there was a good chance that the last person who was with Jayla killed her.

So Lacresha Murray was arrested.

According to Texas law, a minor in police custody must be brought before a magistrate so that someone can see that the minor's rights are being protected.

No one brought Lacresha before a magistrate, and Detective Sergeant Ernesto Pedraza questioned her on tape.

While under interrogation, Lacresha was given a statement to sign. She had not written it, and did not understand what was wanted of her. The tape of the interrogation reveals:

PEDRAZA: That's all true and correct. Am I forcing you to sign that?
LACRESHA: Yeah.
PEDRAZA: Wha-?
LACRESHA: No.

Before we go any further into Lacresha's encounters with the law, let's look at what had transpired with Jayla Belton before her death.

Dr. Linda Norton, a former Dallas County Medical Examiner now in private practice as a forensic pathologist, says she believes that Jayla's mom, Judy Belton, and her boyfriend, Derrick Shaw, may have been abusive to the little girl, and may have beaten her before dropping her off at Lacresha's house.

Lacresha, along with her three siblings and grandparents, were meant to take care of Jayla for the afternoon.

When Jayla refused to eat or drink anything, they figured something might be wrong, especially since she was usually ravenous, according to the Murray family.

When the Murrays did manage to get Jayla to eat something, she threw it up immediately. That's when they decided to bring her to the hospital.

Jayla had bruises all over her body, and her liver had ruptured sometime before she was brought in.

Dr. Bayardo, upon examining Jayla during an autopsy, said that the bruises had been inflicted in the hours before her death, although he used only his naked eye to tell, rather than the state-of-the-art equipment available to him.

Dr. Norton contends that the bruises were older, and that Shaw may have kicked Jayla before bringing her to the Murrays'.

When asked if he thought an 11-year-old could have inflicted the bruises upon Jayla, he replied that Lacresha "was not your usual 11-year-old," referring to the fact that Lacresha was abnormally tall for her age.

The state gave Lacresha a public defender with a tiny budget for her capital murder trial. The trial was held a mere two months after Jayla's death, very unusual for a trial of this type.

There were no witnesses to say that they had seen Lacresha abuse Jayla, but the prosecution put forth enough of a case to get a jury to convict Lacresha.

Then an appeals lawyer stepped in, and asked Judge John Dietz to overturn the verdict. He did, stating that he "had a question as to whether justice was done."

A new trial was ordered.

Travis County prosecutors, aware that they might not be able to get another murder conviction after the first one was thrown out, changed the charges.

Under Texas law, the charge of intentional injury to a child carries a maximum sentence of 40 years in jail for a juvenile, the same as capital murder. That is what they charged Lacresha with.

With still no concrete evidence that Lacresha had done anything wrong, she was convicted of intentionally causing injury to Jayla Belton.

Lacresha spent Thanksgiving this year at Giddings State Home and School, a juvenile detention center east of Austin. She will spend Christmas there as well.

If something isn't done soon, she will spend every Thanksgiving and Christmas there until she can be moved to an adult prison, where she will finish her 25-year sentence.

To whom was justice done when Lacresha was convicted a second time? Who deserved to have justice done?

Say what you will about the afterlife and haunting and whatever, but I don't think Jayla was concerned with much after her death, at least as far as Lacresha's case goes.

Derrick Shaw had no relation to the girl, and may have been abusive to her.

Judy Belton, Jayla's mother, had left the girl with Shaw and had no way of knowing what could transpire between them.

Lacresha, now 14, has lost her childhood, and will lose the years during which she would have been shaped into a human being.

Judy Belton is without her daughter. She didn't testify during the trial, and nobody really knows what her intentions with Shaw were.

It seems the only institution to have gained from Lacresha's ordeal is the Travis County Prosecutor's Office. After the first conviction for capital murder was thrown out, the office needed to save face. It did.

As columnist Bob Hebert wrote about Lacresha's case, "The system ganged up on an 11-year-old girl, and the system won."

Josh Shaar

The Perfect Applicant Rejected: Why?

There is something rotten in the state of affairs at Western New England College. This particular pestilence is centered in the most important part of the institution, the admissions office. We have sacrificed Reason and Logic on the altar of "almighty" Policy.

The sickness that pervades this institution must be exorcised before the infection of well-roundedness overwhelms the body of learning.

What has upset this usually optimistic writer you ask? Let me tell you. I have a good friend — let's call him Dan.

This friend of mine graduated with me, graduated ahead of me, actually, and decided to attend Springfield Technical Community College before transferring to WNEC for his last two years. Since his interest was in Criminal Justice, I naturally pointed him in the direction of Western New England College.

While my friend was attending STCC, he achieved a very good academic record. His GPA was sufficient to qualify him for Dean's List honors every semester, and he eventually graduated near the top of his class in the Spring of 1998. During this time, he had been in contact with WNEC and was preparing to register for classes during one of the SOAR sessions. However, this is the point when the proverbial feces hit the fan.

The day before he was supposed to register, he received a call from the Admissions Office stating that he had not taken a requisite Math class while in high school, and therefore he could not attend WNEC.

Dan was incredulous. He came to me, basically asking me what the hell high school had to do with going to WNEC after he had already been in college for two years.

I pointed him in a direction I thought would be helpful, to try to clear up this obvious misunderstanding.

Dan spoke with another administrator on campus, and was assured that the Admissions Office had been mistaken. He was told that he would be able to register normally. Keep in mind that this was occurring in the mid-summer, too late for Dan to apply at a different school if WNEC rejected him.

Having received assurance about his ability to go to WNEC, Dan prepared to register a few weeks later. Before he could, Admissions called him back.

Since I was not privy to the conversation, I must paraphrase what Dan related to me. The Admissions Office basically claimed that the other administrator's opinion was irrelevant on the matter, since that administrator did not work in Admissions. They again told Dan that he could not register without a certain math class.

Dan returned to the other administrator, who then conceded that he would be unable to help Dan in this matter. Dan asked Admissions which math class he had to take, and subsequently he registered back at STCC to take it.

Fast forward to this month. Dan, having taken the math class required by Admissions, called WNEC to make sure that his application would be set for the Spring semester in 1999.

He was referred to the School of Arts & Sciences, which proceeded to inform Dan that the math class he had taken, the one told to him by Admissions, was the wrong math class. Hence, Dan could not attend WNEC next semester either.

Disgusted, Dan informed me that he would simply attend Westfield State instead.

I agreed and applauded his decision. I was ashamed to say that I was student at WNEC as my friend told me his story. I honestly felt regret that I went to this institution, because I had no good defense of our actions toward this deserving prospective student.

I don't blame any one person for this situation. I don't think that any of the people involved were truly trying to screw over the applicant.

However, I do blame the system that produced these result. We follow our admissions policy in the name of "maintaining academic excellence." The phrase "academic excellence" used by the administration is simply a euphemism for "academic censorship."

When a college begins to deny an accomplished Honors-level student the chance to learn, because of an arbitrary and misguided requirement, then that college has no right to call itself an institution for higher education.

Shouldn't someone that has proven himself to be an exceptional student be given the chance to further that excellence? Shouldn't a college desire this kind of student to help foster the learning environment that the school purports to strive for?

The fact that our institution puts more importance on how a student does in high school math, rather than how he does in two years of college, simply shows me that there is something truly rotten at Western New England College.

Craig Nakashian

Waylaid in the Campus Center

Students Need to be Aware of Commercialism on Campus

The average American sees 3,000 advertisements per day. WNEC students probably see the same amount walking through the campus center.

Advertising has become so ubiquitous that we hardly notice it, yet it would be really difficult to count how many ads that are seen each day here.

Fliers fall out of textbooks. Junk mail fills our mailboxes, and "Spam" crowds out our e-mail. Racks of brochures detail the latest "student advantage." Vendors set up stands hawking everything from cell phones to military recruitment. Mousepads have ads for collegiate webpages. And yes, even *The Westerner* carries advertising.

The question remains, why are college students so targeted for telemarketing, and how many companies use the WNEC campus to sell?

For some answers, I spoke to Professor Paul Costanza, chair of the Marketing Department. He put it simply. "To advertisers, colleges are a dream - a very lucrative market."

College students are a perfect combination of all the factors that make the perfect consumer. They are isolated, away from home, and dependent completely upon their own purchasing decisions for the first time, and are relatively inexperienced.

They live here, and so can be marketed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Many of the students who choose the same college have similar personality types and social demographics, and so the companies only have to direct one advertising approach.

Students are career success-oriented, and so gravitate toward products that seem to enhance that success.

Marketing toward college students is part of a process that Costanzo calls "selling from before birth to after death."

Advertisers begin selling baby products before the infant is even born, and that selling continues throughout life, even unto funeral sales, with different approaches being used at each phase of your life.

College is just another phase at which you can be sold something.

Sometimes the appeal resonates and sometimes it falls flat, and when it fails it shows the true tactics used to appeal to students.

For example, collegeclub.com, another mouse pad-advertised website, tries too hard to be cool and appeal to college students, but shows it was written and designed by over-forty marketing executives seeking to appeal to the largely illusionary "Generation X" demographic.

It is interesting to see that we, the members of this so-called generation, do not refer to ourselves with the same blanket term the media does. Mid-80s slang abounds, as in Jewel's "dudical" new album.

These appeals fail so wildly they are humorous. Beyond a quick laugh at the advertiser's incompetence, it makes one think about how often we do not recognized as professionally designed PR and hype.

So how does a company get permission to advertise on campus?

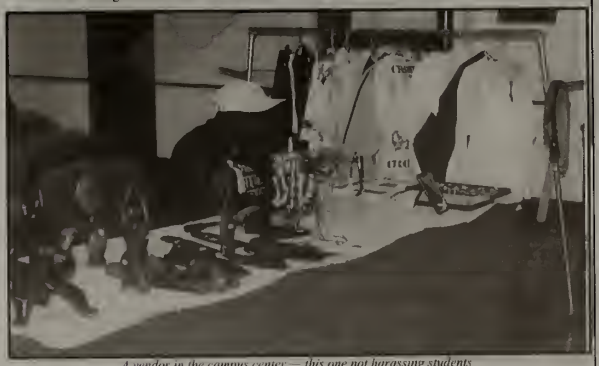
The brochure racks are here courtesy of two large players in the college marketing industry - American Collegiate Marketing and Campus Marketing Associates.

The college receives no money for them being present; they are "free" but have to pass approval for posting.

But as they are a passive form of advertising (the student has to choose to take one), they cause no significant disruption.

Rules are different for on-site vendors. I spoke to Celia Norcross in Student Activities, who outlined the procedure for a vendor being allowed to sell on campus.

First, sellers call the college and ask permission. They must provide a list of the goods they are selling, which must be allowed on campus and in the Residence Halls, meaning items like candles, tobacco, knives and so on, cannot be sold.



A vendor in the campus center — this one not harassing students

What they are selling must also have some relevance to what is happening at the college. For example, during the holiday season, craftspeople may sell Christmas ornaments on campus.

A student organization may also sponsor a vendor; ROTC is responsible for the military recruiters.

If accepted, the marketer's name is then put on a list and given a date and time, usually not more than two days.

Public Safety has the authority to enforce these regulations and evict vendors who sell on campus illegally.

A controversial event occurred last year when Skoal, the chewing tobacco company, sold its products on campus, angering the Health department and many students.

Other than the occasional overzealous vendor, there have been few problems with companies or individuals who sell on campus.

So do the students and college gain or lose from all this selling? Costanzo said, "There are ethical and unethical marketers;" those who give back to the college for their selling opportunities and those who take advantage of it.

WNEC's new mission statement states that a key emphasis of the WNEC education is partnerships with business, through internships and cooperative assignments, such as students assisting a corporation with its problems in return for experience and resume material.

WNEC has a long-standing relationship with such local companies as MassMutual, where students often take internships, and often then get jobs at the company through corporate involvement on campus.

Another example would be the upcoming National Sale Competition, sponsored by Northwestern Mutual Life, where students can earn money.

But there is a dark side of corporate involvement in education as well, from unethical marketers.

Costanzo gave me the example of fraudulent telemarketers, who usually target the elderly but are increasingly going for young people.

They claim that sweepstakes or scholarships have been won, but a payment has to be made for the prize to be claimed.

An example is the various "student advantage" plans. While many of these deals offer beneficial advantages, many of them require more payments to join than the average student saves, or apparent "savings" cause the members to buy more than they need. This is the way credit card companies make their money.

There are still many gray areas when it comes to private companies selling on the college campus and both beneficial and negative results from corporate involvement in the college.

It is up to you, the student to read the fine print, and separate the deals from the rip-offs, and to not let commercial interests disrupt your education.

James Russell

It's Time for Iran to Allow Education for All its Citizens

In 1980, the Iranian government stopped allowing members of the Baha'i faith into universities in Iran. Shortly after that, all Baha'i faculty members at universities were dismissed from their jobs.

In 1987, Baha'i professors and administrators put together an open university for Baha'i students called the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education (BIHE). Classes were run in private homes, often on a one-on-one basis.

The university system ran on real curricula, using real textbooks. Educators were not paid, and enrollment was free. Diplomas were awarded to students, and although the university did not hold an accreditation, some employers internationally accepted the students as college graduates.

In 1991, the Iranian Supreme Revolutionary Cultural Council published a document titled "The Baha'i Question," in which it threatened to shut down the university. Ayatollah Ali Khameinei signed the document. The Iranian government contends that the document is a fake.

The U.S. State Department's annual report on human rights in 1993, responding to "The Baha'i Question," states that "it appears to be an accurate reflection of current government practice."

Between September 19 and October 3 of this year, more than 500 Baha'i homes were raided.

Any and all educational materials were taken from the homes, and at least 36 people were arrested. The Baha'i Institute of Higher Education was officially shut down.

Professor Said Dini of the Mechanical Engineering Department and William Grohe of the Writing and Reading Program here at WNEC want students to be aware of what is going on in Iran.

Dini, in an interview with The Westerner, said, "This is news. This is relevant. This is higher education."

According to the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "Everyone has a right to education...and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit."

Although the document, ratified by many nations (including Iran, but not the U.S.) 50 years ago yesterday, is not legally binding, it has governed the way many nations have reacted toward human rights violators since its signing.

According to Grohe and Dini, education is a major aspect of Baha'i belief. The New York Times, in its October 29, 1998 issue, quoted an unnamed Baha'i as saying, "Education is such a central goal for us that we must rebuild. It is like a light at the end of a tunnel."

The closing of the BIHE and the arrests and house raids are not the only ills that have befallen Baha'is in Iran this year. A Baha'i was hanged in July on a charge of having converted a Muslim to the faith, and two more Baha'is are in prison, awaiting execution.

Dini and Grohe said that they wanted to make WNEC students aware of the plight of higher education in other countries, and that students here are lucky to be in the position they are in.

Josh Shear

From Kelly to Sorenson, NYPD Blue Retains Mythic Quality

by Wayne Berr
Editor

Every Tuesday night, from ten to eleven o'clock, I know exactly where I'll be. It's the same place I've been every Tuesday night, give or take, for the last five years: in my threadbare orange ochre armchair, the one with two broken springs, usually holding a beer in one hand and the remote in another.

There's a guilt that comes with enjoying a show like *NYPD Blue* as much as I do — an inner voice tells me I ought to be reading instead, or studying for an exam. By and large I dislike television, and generally consider it a wasteland of regurgitated ideas, bad jokes, cliched dialogue. But *NYPD Blue* is different. The characters are mythic, the world they inhabit almost Homeric in scope. There is even a particular vernacular, almost an independent dialect, spoken only by those in the squad.

"He's on the job."

"That skell give it up?"

"I'll have a good thought for him."

Part of the genius of the show is in the accents and tones of the script, in the streetwise cadences of the dialogue, in its rough, subtle modulations.

This season, as anyone who watches television must know, has been a pivotal one for *NYPD Blue*. Jimmy Smits, opting to leave his role as Bobby Simone, had to be written out of the show and replaced. It took five episodes to give him a cardiac infection, put him in the hospital, and kill him. Two and a half weeks ago, over three million people tuned in to watch Simone die.

It is not difficult to stir viewers with dramatic, Dickensian scenes of death; it would have been easy enough for the show's producers and writers to do away with Smits' character with a few directorial flourishes, and still receive critical accolades. Simone's final episode, however, and the final scene in particular, transcended the show itself. Patsy, a retired lightweight boxer who taught Simone how to fly birds, calls to Simone in a dream — a crass, thick-accented New York Virgil who rhymes in rapid iambs and speaks in pigeon metaphors. "Now I take it you've grown, and I can leave you on your own," he calls, and with a single tear, Simone dies, flies, over the horizon.

Compare this with David Caruso's final scene, four seasons ago, when he left *NYPD Blue* to pursue a doomed career in film: he simply walked out of the squad room, down the stairs, and out the door. After months of tension and hostility on the set, his character — detective John Kelly — was simply fired, and in subsequent episodes alluded to only as "the other guy" — that is, the guy before Simone. Smits' final episodes are a testimony to his contribution to the show, and in the two episodes since his character's death, he has been mentioned often, by name.

If there is justice in television, Smits will get an Emmy for his work.

Viewers, of course, have one question: what next? Consider, for example, what the death of Simone does to the characters still on the show. Diane Russo, Simone's widow, has already suffered from alcoholism and repressed memory syndrome. In one season her mother shot her father; in another she was drugged and sexually assaulted while working undercover; in another she had a miscarriage. It seems almost impossible to expect her shattered psyche to withstand the pressures of life in the concrete jungle of New York City.

Or Andy Sipowicz, who suffered a failed marriage, memories of Vietnam, and, of course, alcoholism. His son disowned him, reconciled with him, and then was murdered. Sipowicz's entire life is an exercise in redemption, in setting right the mistakes of the past, in calming the restless banshees of history. His tragic flaw is that he inevitably creates new problems in his single-minded obstinacy. And now his partner, the best man at his second marriage, his last and only friend, is dead.

Dennis Franz (Sipowicz), Kim Delany (Russo), and Jimmy Smits (Simone)

See **BLUE, next page**

Psycho Remake Heads Down the Drain

by Jennifer O'Brien
Layout Editor

It finally came out after months of hype by the media and press. Director Gus Van Sant's remake of the 1960 Hitchcock classic *Psycho* opened in the theaters on Dec. 4th.

The movie is essentially the same. Van Sant stuck to the same six week filming schedule, used the same camera angles, the same dialogue, the same sets.

The only real difference you'll find when comparing the original to the recent remake is the movie is in color — opposed to the black-and-white original.

The movie has also been updated to the 1998 standards of language and use of sexual connotations. And of course you'll see a brand new cast.

Van Sant, in several different interviews, said that he wanted to update the movie so that it might appeal to a larger audience — with the notion that many individuals prefer color to black and white.

What Van Sant may have overlooked was that the technology to film movies in color was available "all the way back" in 1960. Hitchcock chose to film in black and white to add to the tone and feel of the movie.

Certain changes in the new version left me wanting for the original.

When the camera focuses on the motel for the first time, no longer will the sewawl of Bates Motel on a sign be seen hanging by the side of the road.

Instead, you see only the blinding red neon of MOTEL sitting atop the building in big hideous letters.

And despite the modern day advances in cinematography, you cannot get a good look at Norman's house in any scene in the movie. It made me wonder if it were a different house all together.

Before the famous shower scene, both movies will show Norman spying on Marion while she undresses in her motel room.

The purpose of this is to demonstrate that Norman is aroused by her. In the new version however, we get the added bonus of watching Norman masturbate as he is peering at her.

No thank you. I got my fill of that after watching *Silence of the Lambs*.

Over all, the filming of the movie wasn't that bad. The shower scene was well done, and the use of more blood was a nice touch. It showed Van Sant's dedication to trying to do the original justice.

The main problem I have with the movie is the acting. I got the impression that the new cast was chosen because it looked like the original, not for its ability to play the roles.

Anne Heche did a decent job following in Janet Leigh's footsteps, by bringing a more independent and less scatterbrained feel to the part.

It is Vince Vaughn's interpretation of Anthony Perkin's character, Norman Bates, that bothered me.

He changed a seriously disturbed killer into a goof-ball that had a laugh to go with it. In almost every scene he would display a pair of bucked teeth and give off a chuckle that sounded like it should he coming from Goofy.

His important monologue, about how he could never put his mother in an institution, made me feel as though you couldn't take him seriously. And Norman Bates' most famous line — "We all go a little mad sometimes" — was rushed over without any consideration to its importance to the story.

My overall thoughts on seeing *Psycho*: if you can tolerate a black-and-white film, save your money and go rent the original.

If you see the new version, just understand that you will be sacrificing good actors for a modern day movie.

As for Gus Van Sant: leave the classics alone, and let them remain classics.

Janet Leigh steps into the shower for the last time

The Maggies Play Pure Pop Fun

Josh Shear
Ed/Op Editor

What's with The Maggies?

Half a dozen years and several lineups after their first practice, the Northampton-based quartet has put out yet another debut CD.

Guitarist/vocalist Philip Price and bassist Max Germer have been the backbone of the band since the start, and the latest lineup, which includes Stuart Wright on drums and Adrian O'Carolan on harmonium and vocals, looks like it may last.

The band's latest CD, *Homesick*, released on Chickenman Records, provides a brilliant overview of this mysterious band.

Why mysterious? Well, first there's the name. The band won't talk about why it's called The Maggies, and a visit to its web page reveals about a dozen "rumors," made up by fans, of why that particular name might have been chosen.

Then there's the mysterious track 13. Yes, I understand that lots of bands put an extra track on their CDs, but most try to hide it in some way. It appears that The Maggies, however, simply forgot about listing it.

Why brilliant? Well, it's all about the music, actually.

Homesick begins, mysteriously, in some alternate world with "A Different Sun" — it then winds its way back to Idaho, of all places.

It may not be until one makes it to "Wrong" that one realizes the band isn't selling itself on quirkiness. Price and O'Caloran mix their harmonies beautifully, and one can hear a subtle similarity in the vocals to the man who once called himself Prince.

Homesick magically weaves its way through the lovely (if slightly possessive) "Thank God" on to the bluegrass-tinged "Need a Date" before arriving, eventually, at the mysterious track 13.

Price and Luke Jaeger did a good job laying out the liner art and lyrics in a unique but clear style, an unusual feat not accomplished much by any band in recent years.

For as brilliant as the CD may be, the band isn't getting cocky. All four members are keeping themselves in rein, not pretending they're stars yet.

It might be time to quit their day jobs, however. The band played to a large crowd at the Iron Horse December 5 — much larger than they may even have hoped for. And the crowd didn't do much except dance and cheer the entire night.

They started the show with "Hit On the Head," the second track from *Homesick*, and then moved gorgeously into "A Different Sun."

The audience had warmed up from the chilly Saturday night air by then, and Wright's entire family (or most of it anyway) hit the dance floor, small children and all.

Price then introduced the next song as "My Gun is Loaded With the Same Bullet You Shot me With," and wound from that into a wonderful take of "Thank God."

The show included four brand new songs, all of which are slated to be on the next CD.

Recording for the new disc starts next week. One of the new ones ("Turn this Ambulance Around") was billed as Germer's first contribution to the repertoire.

Some other highlights of the show included "Brittle," back from the very first recording the Maggies ever made, "Homesick," "Wrong," and an encore that included "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," with a little touch of the Ramones' "I Want to be Sedated" mixed in.

Boston's Gravel Pit opened the show with a sound that was pure rock and roll that, although with the exception of a couple of microphone tricks to show the Pit's lack of funds, didn't vary much.

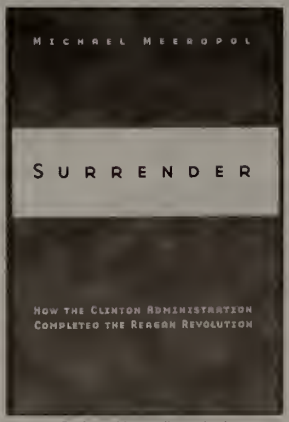
Surrender: The Economics of Today

by Kevin Drozdowski
Contributing Writer

During the late 1970's, taxes were too high, the welfare system rewarded dependency and punished work, government spending was out of control, and government had too much control on the economy.

A course of action was badly needed and was initiated by Ronald Reagan. Some sixteen years later, Bill Clinton had made many promises similar to Reagan during the course of his reelection.

In *Surrender*, Michael Meeropol carefully examines the problems, which called for policies to be adapted by Reagan, Bush and Clinton administrations, how they changed government involvement in the economy, and if they succeeded.



Professor Meeropol's new book

The analysis given over the last three administrations in *Surrender* is a great tool for understanding the current state of the economy, along with economic and monetary policies.

Surrender combines history, politics and economics to explain our economy. Meeropol takes a very open-minded approach to every situation proposed in his book.

He offers many different points of view, all of which he carefully examines and offers alternatives to, whether they are conservative, mainstream, or radical.

Overall, I feel *Surrender* is a great book that should be utilized by everyone. Meeropol does an excellent job of diligently explaining economics, and economic policy, which should be understood by all. It reads easily, and helps explain how government generates, spends, and redistributes monies, how monetary policies are developed, how the economy functions, as well as its purpose.

"Surrender" provides the answers to how we resulted in our current state of the economy.

Metallica: Garage Days Revisited

by Natalia Pisarcik
Staff Writer

They consider themselves a "garage band," but most of us consider them one of the best heavy metal bands of all time. They are Metallica, and they have recently released their eighth mainstream album.

Unlike the past seven, this is a double CD, with disk 1 consisting of new recordings, and disk 2 consisting of their past garage day albums and B-sides.

As with the past two albums, disk one isn't up to their old school quality. Disk 1 is mainly their versions of other songs: basically they're covering songs of their favorite bands.

With that in mind, they do have a pretty awesome version of Bob Seger's "Turn the Page." They also do covers of Black Sabbath ("Sabbra Cadabra"), Danzig ("Die, Die My Darling"), Blue Oyster Cult ("Astronomy"), and Lynyrd Skynyrd ("Tuesday's Gone").

Disk two clearly shows the true Metallica songs like "Am I Evil?" and "Blitzkrieg" that were off their *Garage Days Revisited '84* album. And songs like "Helpless," "The Small Hours" and "Crash Course in Brain Surgery" also show the true metal that has placed them where they are today.

Metallica's eighth album hits the record stores

All the songs mentioned were off the *Garage Days Re-Revisited '87* album.

Disk 2 also offers a killer version of Queen's "Stone Cold Crazy," which alone makes the album worth purchasing. Also, "Killing Time" is another great B-side on the album.

If you're a true metal head, an "I like to jam to some good metal" type of person, then this is definitely something to add to the wish list this holiday season.

Yes, they may have changed their hair length and some of their music style, but they are still damn good for a metal band, especially in concert.

Also, along with the release of their new double CD, VH1 (yes, VH1!) has recently aired a "Behind the Music" special on the band. I also found it hard to believe — VH1 and Metallica?

It's almost like MTV having a holiday special with Celine Dion. Anyway, the special was actually pretty good, as are all the "Behind the Music" specials. And if you like Metallica, are a die-hard fan, or are just a wanna-be, then check this special out.

With all this in mind, keep on head banging and listening.

BLUE, from previous page

It is no wonder, then, that some viewers had reservations about Rick Schroeder. The blonde, bright-eyed child actor hardly seemed fit for the role, worthy of replacing Smits. The mythic landscape seemed too vast to hold him. The two episodes since his debut, however, must have convinced skeptics — as Sipowicz might say, in the vernacular of the show: "This type thing reassures people's qualms."

A Telemakhos to Sipowicz's Odysseus, Schroeder's Danny Sorenson sets up the classic dichotomy of father and son, of mentor and protege. Stephen Bochco, the show's creator and producer, is a genius — in one fell swoop, he changed the scope and dynamic of the show without altering the gritty, grimy world its characters inhabit.

All that, plus nudity and profanity.

Sometimes the show has veered too close to soap-opera drama — at one point, several seasons ago, it seemed that everyone in the fifteenth precinct was dating someone else in the precinct. These moments are rare, though. Even minor characters, like the neurotic, underwritten Medavoy, add a quasi-Shakespearean element to the show — they are, it seems, comical characters, brought out between heavy, emotion-laden scenes, to relieve the pathos and save the show from melodrama.

Perhaps it is going to far, this analysis of what is only, after all, a TV show. I don't know. Perhaps all this is a literary justification for what is nothing more than my guilty pleasure. All I know for certain is that, a season or two from now, I will need a new armchair.

WNEC Sports are "Moving On Up"

An Interview with Athletic Director Mike Theulen

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

Western New England College sports teams are finally living up to their potential. Some success stories include the women's soccer team's amazing 20-2 record, the football team's two consecutive winning seasons, and the men's soccer team's final 11-8. So what changes have occurred to make the sports program at this institution more respectable, you might ask? Well, read on sports fans, and I'll fill you in.

Most importantly, the institution seems to be saturated with student athletes who truly want their teams to be successful.

The institution is very fortunate for this because having the inspiration to win and wanting to help your team reach its potential is something that cannot be taught by coaches.

Mike Theulen added, "The players have mental toughness and they prepare themselves to win because they know they can win." Theulen also noted he is "very happy with the spirit and response of student athletes; they all should be commended."

The student athletes were indeed commended for their accomplishments at the Fall Sports Banquet. "The Banquet is not only for what the students have done for their teams, but what they have done for [the reputation of] Western New England College," said Theulen. The women's soccer team has been invited to attend a Trustee's meeting so they can be further recognized for their accomplishments.

Another important alteration is that the staff of the athletic program and the athletes are no longer separate entities.

Now more than ever they are working with each other to make sports at Western New England College competitive. As Theulen noted, "There is a feeling of commitment to the whole athletic program."

One method of doing this is through the Athletic Advisory Council. Some individuals with a great amount of prestige on the Council are Mike Theulen, Dean DiRuzza, Dr. Brissette and Dr. Walker. Other notables are Tim St. James, Coach Downes, and now, yours truly.

The purpose of the Athletic Council is to give members an opportunity to raise suggestions and give feedback as to how to make continued improvements in the program. Although the Council is "members only," any advice non-members might have to improve the program is strongly encouraged and welcome.

The reason for this is because, as Theulen said, "We don't want [Western New England College sports] to be a one-hit wonder, we want to continue to have presence by making ourselves known."

The College community should also be commended for their support of the sports programs. Fans continue to come to athletic events and cheer on the Golden Bears.

The Athletic Director noted, "I am very thankful for this support and encourage people to stay on board, because the best is yet to come."

WNEC Wrestling Team Prepared for a Great Season

by Kevin Hassett
Contributing Writer

The Western New England College Wrestling Team is one of the most successful sports program in school history. Now in its 24th season, WNEC Wrestling has held a high level of achievement over the years.

Coached by Bob Skelton, a member of the NCAA Division III National Wrestling Coaches Hall of Fame, the team has compiled an astonishing winning percentage of 71%, which includes 355 victories.

Against Division III competition alone, the team's record ranks fourth overall in the nation.

In addition to success on the mats, there is a high academic standard on the team. Over the last fourteen seasons, the team has produced an outstanding 26 Academic All-Americans.

Just last season, the team finished first in New England and fourth in the nation in academics with a team GPA of 3.38.

This included five Academic All-Americans with a combined GPA of 3.81.

Team unity is an important aspect of the program. There is a great family-like atmosphere among the players and coaches, and each wrestler is expected to give 100 percent effort, whether at practice or during a match.

The wrestlers also participate in activities such as team picnics, study halls, morning runs, and strength and conditioning exercises.

Coach Skelton has been very active in his 23 years of coaching at Western New England College. In addition to coaching the team and being inducted to the hall of fame, Skelton has taught at numerous wrestling camps and clinics world-wide, and has been on the coaching staff of the South Korean and US Olympic teams.

> ***"... the team has compiled an astonishing winning percentage of 71%, which includes 355 victories."***

In the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Skelton was at mat-side when former WNEC wrestler Rodney Smith won the Bronze Medal at 149.5 pounds in Greco-Roman wrestling.

This season, the team is led by Junior Captains John Kanavich, Kevin Fleenor, and Glenn Ringbloom. The team has already competed in the Springfield Invitational, a pre-season tournament held the weekend before Thanksgiving.

Top finishers for WNEC included Kanavich, who took first place at 133 pounds, Freshman John Burke, who finished second at 141 pounds, and Fleenor, who took fourth place at 125 pounds.

Last season, the team finished with a record of 15-6. Coach Skelton has a positive outlook for this season, despite having a relatively young team (there are no seniors on the squad).

Both coaches and players point to the match this season with local rival Springfield College as the toughest on their schedule.

Given the mentality and character of this team, one can be assured that they will do whatever it takes to put forth their best effort in that match, and throughout the season.

Student Athletes Recognized

Senior Emily Alland of Mansfield, MA and junior Jason

Emily Alland

Lacroix of Barre, VT were selected as WNEC athletes of the week for the week ending November 22.

Alland, co-captain of the women's swimming team, set a new school record in the 500-yard freestyle event in a meet against Keene State College in Keene, NH. Alland's time of 5:42.75 shattered the previous record by more than 12 seconds. She is now the holder of seven individual school swimming records, and is part-owner of five school relay records.

Emily is a pre-law major and the daughter of Jane Alland of

Jason Lacroix

Mansfield.

Lacroix, co-captain of the ice hockey team, had six points in two games for the Golden Bears. He had a goal and an assist in an overtime loss to Assumption College, and then recorded a hat trick and added an assist in a 7-2 win over Nichols College. He leads the team in scoring with eight goals and nine assists thus far this season.

Jason attended Spaulding High School and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Lacroix of Barre.

Freshman Joyce Neilson of Salisbury, CT and junior Ryan Abraham of Newington, CT were selected as athletes of the week for the week ending December 6.

Neilson, the starting point guard for the women's basketball team, averaged 12.5 points, 6.8 rebounds, and 5.5 assists per game in four contests last week. WNEC split the contests, defeating Fitchburg State and Baruch, while losing to Framingham State and Drew University. Joyce was named to the All-Tournament Team at the Manhattanville College Invitational. The Golden Bears finished third in the tournament, defeating Baruch in the consolation game.

Joyce, a sports management major, attended Housatonic Re-

Joyce Neilson

gional High School, where she played soccer and basketball. She is the daughter of David and Linda Neilson of Salisbury.

Abraham, co-captain of the men's basketball team, averaged 17.7 points, 8.7 rebounds and 4 assists per game. The 6'5" center scored 20 points and grabbed 10 boards as the Golden Bears defeated Fitchburg State 69-61, and had 15 points and nine rebounds in a 75-61 victory over Westfield State College.

Ryan, a sports management major, attended Newington High School and is the son of David and Debbie Abraham of Newington.

Ryan Abraham

CLASSIFIEDS

WNEC Update

Notice to all Clubs and Organizations. It is time to start making use of your campus resources! Advertise for your club's events in *The Westerner*'s Classifieds section under WNEC Updates. There is no charge! Just send your information to Student Publications (across from WNEK) or call Jen at 782-1581. Line ads and small display ads are available.

WNEC Update

PEN is looking for clubs to co-sponsor a 70's and 80's Retro Dance Party. It is being planned for sometime in March. If interested or need more info, leave a message in the club mailbox or call PEN through Student Activities at x1360.

WNEC Update

WNEC's Internet Association is offering web paging services to all clubs and organizations on campus. With a $100 fee you can receive up to 3 pages for the site. Contact by way of mailbox or at mars.wnec.edu/~ia

WNEC Update

Student Senate wants your imput on which software you would like to see in the Cyber Café. Drop all comments in the Senate mailbox.

WNEC Update

Don't forget there is money to be won — if you submit your color artwork now. $150 certificate to the first place winner of this year's cover contest for *The Review of Art & Literature*. Bring submissions to the Student Publications Office.

WNEC Update

Spring classes will resume Tuesday, Jan 19th at 8:00am. Have a good winter break!

WNEC Update

Campus Ministry Invites Everyone to attend their Annual Catholic Mass, Sunday, December 13th at 11:30pm in S100. Midnight brunch to follow service in Dining Room A. All are welcome.

WNEC Update

The Behavioral Social Science Club would like to thank everyone on campus for their generous donations for the food and clothing drive. We had a great turnout and donations were greatly appreciated by the Open Pantry and the Salvation Army.

~Thanks from the BSSC

U & ME
CHRISTMAS PARTY
TONIGHT!

2pm to 4pm
in
Dining Room A

Need gifts for boys and girls between 3 to 6 years of age. Unisex gifts are best. No need to wrap gift. Drop gift off at Diversity Office.

WNEC Update

Classes end on Friday, Dec 11th and final exams begin Monday, Dec 14th. There will be a policy of extended **Quiet Hours** during the weekend and through final exam week. Exams will continue through Saturday, Dec. 19th. All college housing closes at 7:00pm also on the 19th. College housing will reopen Monday Jan 18th at 10am for the spring semester residents.

CASH FOR BOOKS
WNEC Bookstore will buy back your used books
Friday Dec. 11th - Monday Dec. 21st
Mon - Thurs : 8am to 7pm
Fri : 8am to 4pm
Sat : 11am to 2pm

For Sale

'87 Nissan Sentra, 2-door, shift gear, mint condition, PS, AC. Asking $1650 or B/O. Call (413) 781-7455.

For Sale

'87 Honda Civic - gray, automatic, 4-door sedan. New engine under warranty to Jan '99. Asking $2000 (negotiable). Contact Robin @ (413) 746-1799.

For Sale

Snow Board for Sale - Burton Twin 47 - '95/'96. Deck only, good condition. Great for beginner. $150 or B/O. Call Laurie Eve @ (413) 786-1459.

For Sale

2 acoustic linear speaker system - 200 watts each. Asking $50 each. Call 789-2126 for info.

For Sale

Official Outing Club water bottles are now on sale for only $1.00 each. Call Ryan at x4453 or leave orders in the club mail box.

For Sale

'92 Suzuki DR350S. Dual purpose, 2600 miles, SuperTrapp exhaust, jet kit, Progressive suspension, many extras. Prof. maintained. Asking $2100. Call Scott @ 739-7905.

Help Wanted

Women between ages of 21- 34 needed to donate eggs. Must be maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Compensation of $3,000 for time, energy and effort of donation. Please call Dr. Angela Figueroa at 1-888-494-4060 for an information packet.

Help Wanted

The Westerner is looking to fill staff positions for the current school year. Please inquire at the Student Publications Office or call Wayne Barr at 782-1580. Assistant Editor, L/A Section Editor, and Staff Writers available. Comp skills a plus. Also looking for contributing writers.

Help Wanted

The Review of Art & Literature needs your submissions now! Deadline for all submissions is Friday, Feb 5th. (no exceptions) Please get your work in — get yourself published.

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Local Event

Charles Dickens' timeless classic ***A Christmas Carol*** returns to Springfield Symphony Hall for Friday, Dec. 11th. Ticket prices are $9 and $12.50. To charge by phone call (413) 787-6600.

Local Event

Candlelight Christmas Concert at Old First Church on Court Square — Sunday, Dec 13th at 4pm. Presented by Music at First.

Local Event

Coming to Smith College — Jan 18 - 22, *A Journey Into Fear — The History of Comic Book Censorship and the Heritage of the Horror Comic*. This ten hour seminar offers a visual chronology showing more than 5 centuries of crime and punishment, sex and death, censorship and retribution. Over 400 slides and numerous video clips, the class covers the range from scrolls to book covers and pages. 1-3pm in Seelye 109. Sign up by calling Ms. Alston at (413) 585-2060.

Job Info

College students can now visit Yorkshire Place on the World Wide Web for information about insurance industry jobs and training programs. Located at http://www.yorkshireplace.com, the site recently came online with an extensive database of entry level job listings and insurance industry information.

Job Info

OPEN HOUSE at TRAVELERS, Downtown Hartford on Tuesday, Jan. 12th from 3 - 6pm. Internships, Co-op's, open to all majors, bring your resumes. For more info contact Allison Keeton at (860) 277-1815.

CLASSIFIEDS

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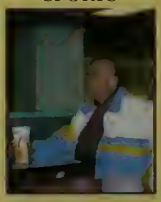
SPORTS



The bowling team remembers Coach Richard Burns, 1928-1999

p. 10

CLASSIFIEDS

p. 11-12

Students Participate in Model UN

by Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

Amid unseasonably warm weather, the Western New England College Political Science Association (PSA) trekked to Boston to participate in an International Model United Nations Simulation hosted by Harvard University.

The 13-person delegation, representing the former Soviet republic of Belarus, was headed by this writer.

The simulation involved over 24 hours of intense debate and caucusing, as well as many additional hours of informal agenda formulation.

More than 2000 students, some from as far away as India and Turkey, represented the various nation-states of the world.

Colleges like Yale University, The United States Military Academy (West Point) and the University of California at Berkeley also sent delegates to participate.

The staff and moderators at the conference were all Harvard students.

Political Science Club members mingle at the International Model United Nations Simulation

This simulation differed from many other model UN simulations by only operating within a committee environment, as opposed to the larger General Assembly settings that are more common.

The time was spent choosing an agenda to debate, then in formulating working papers and resolutions to solve the problem given, and finally in voting to pass an appropriate resolution to solve the problem.

At least that is the manner in which events were supposed to transpire — the reality was some-

See **MODEL**, page 3

Senior Travels from Laos to America

(Editors' Note: This article is the first in a series that will explore diversity at Western New England College. For more information about the purpose of this series, and for our response to the College's new Diversity Committee Mission Statement, please see page 8.)

by Wayne Barr
Assistant Editor

When Larpao Lee was about four years old, his father left their village to find a better life. Lee's family was living in the mountainous, landlocked country of Laos, in Southeast Asia. There they were part of a Hmong community — descendants of Chinese immigrants who had fled to Laos in the nineteenth century to escape the violence back home.

Lee, now a senior at Western New England College, said he was too young then to understand the political climate in which he grew up, but has learned about it from his father and grandfather.

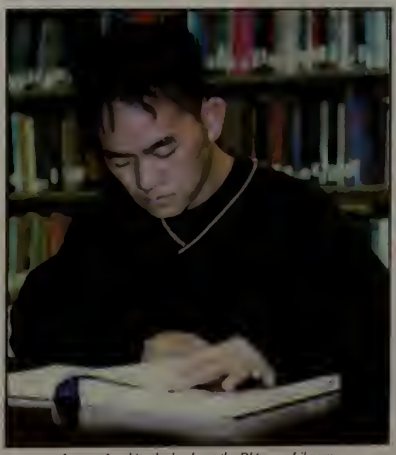
"We were not original Laos," he explained. "My grandparents moved to Laos a long time ago. At that time, many Chinese kill each other, so they came to Laos and live on high mountains ... so we are not original Laos, but Hmong."

The Hmong's anti-communist stance, however, was not accepted in the Latian community, and Hmong hill people were often violently persecuted. While Lee has no personal recollection of communist raids, he does remember life in the village.

"At that time I didn't go to school," he said. "Parents don't have much money; they are just farmers, so when you grow up you are farmer too ... in Laos they have school, education, and shopping, but the Hmong live on mountains ... mostly my family live on the high mountains, and it's really far from the cities."

So, for lack of opportunity and

See **LEE**, page 4



Larpao Lee hits the books at the D'Amour Library

Student Seeks School Support for Sports Car

Junior Adam Ross Hopes to Pay Tuition from the Driver's Seat

by David Weinbarg
Sports Editor

It is not simply about racing a sports car to Adam Ross — it is about being dedicated to it.

Adam Ross, a junior from Detroit, Maine is involved with the top administrators at Western New England College in a unique and interesting debate.

Ross is attempting to persuade the college to sponsor his racecar in exchange for a (partial) credit in his tuition.

"I currently have a local business sponsor, but I'm looking for a primary one to fit the bill of expenses," said Ross.

Before any skeptics assume this idea is a mere excuse to avoid paying the astonishingly high price that colleges cost to attend these days, they should hear Ross's case.

Ross's car is atypical, but certainly eye catching. The sports car eloquently displays the Golden Bear on both the hood and the trunk. Also, the official school colors blue and gold blanket the car.

If Western New England College sponsors the student's car, the school may benefit from its decision in a number of substantial ways.

The car can serve as a great promoting tactic to sell Western New England College merchandise if shirts and hats can be sold with the car's picture on it.

The automobile can even be a central picture on the school's sports literature to promote its willingness to sponsor a student's great desire to race.

This interesting controversy over sponsorship has educational benefits as well.

Ross is currently working on a case study in his Sport Management class to reveal statistical data and budgeting ideas that would be involved with sponsoring the sports car.

The case study may also serve as a useful tool for students enrolled in finance and those in the field of engineering who might study the car's performance or even suggest alternative ways to make it run faster.

Adam Ross's racecar shows off his school pride — he just hopes his school has as much pride in him

According to Ross, he has been behind the wheel racing for three years and does not have any intention to yield his interest.

Ross indicated that his love for racing "grew out of being around it all the time, its been in the family."

Ross's father has been a positive role model and stands by his son's decision to race. "He guides me and allows me to make my own mistakes but is always there when I need him," said Ross.

The debate over whether this institution will sponsor the sports car is only in "the first couple stages of development," said Ross, but he anticipates a definite answer in the near future.

For now, Ross will continue to talk to administration, and who knows — maybe someday the Golden Bear will be replaced by the Golden Sports Car!

Time for Students to Nominate Their Favorite Professors

Do you know an excellent faculty member?

Here's your chance to nominate that faculty member for the 1999 Excellence in Teaching Award.

The 1999 Teaching Excellence Committee invites you to nominate a member of the faculty who best exemplifies excellence in teaching and campus leadership.

The nominee must have made a distinct difference in the teaching climate of the college in model classroom teaching, innovative teaching methods, creative course development, instructional support and/or campus leadership.

The committee will consider all nominations. However, a faculty member cannot receive this award [illegible] following [illegible] faculty members who have received the [illegible] Henry J. Lazo, Peter W. Ross, Alfred Kizanis, Dennis J. Kolodziejski, [illegible] Marilyn K. Pelosi, Richard Pelosi, and Richard R. Veronesi.

The award will be presented to this year's recipient at the Student Recognition Ceremony to be held on May 7, 1999.

The winner will receive $1000 from the College, and his or her name will be added to the plaque in the library that displays the names of all past recipients of the award.

Indicate your nomination and provide the committee with a written statement supporting your nomination. Please provide your name and year of graduation.

Consider the [illegible] listed above [illegible] people [illegible] nominee.

Nominations must be supported by a written statement [illegible] not be considered by the committee.

You can send nominations via campus mail to Marie Izyk at the Office of the Provost, e-mail them to mizyk@[illegible] or [illegible]

Communications Class Undertakes Fundraiser for Children

by Brian Boczanowski
Contributing Writer

Got any spare change?

Those famous words that we hear from friends, or from beggars on the street, are coming to Western New England College.

No, there isn't an outbreak of poverty among the student body (though some would argue there is), but rather a cry for help is being answered.

The Professional Communications class has undertaken, as its class project, a fundraiser for the Children's Study Home here in Springfield.

The Children's Study Home is a group that harbors children with special needs and/or abused and poverty stricken families.

Members of the class will be asking for donations, but as of press time, dates were still unknown.

The class urges students of the college to give anything they can to help the Children's Study Home. Even if it's only some spare change, a little can go a long way, they say.

Student Senate Continues Planning Spring Semester

College Community Can Prepare for WNEC Olympics, Little People's Weekend, other Events

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer

Student Senate is still working on and planning various activities for the spring semester.

These are the activities which

Senate News

were discussed at the last two meetings, which were held on the 16th and 23rd of February:

The WNEC Olympics will be held from March 3rd through March 5th.

The events will be held in the Field House of the AHLC from 7 to 9pm. Please come and support the teams.

— There will be a Spring Sport Celebration on March 5th in the AHLC, after the WNEC Olympics.

This event will be a chance to honor spring sports teams. The main entertainment of the evening will be a hypnotist show. There will also be a raffle for an airline voucher that is worth $500.

— Little People's Weekend will be held March 5th and 6th.

WNEC students and faculty are invited to bring their children or little brothers and sisters to participate in the events.

There will be many events for the children, including a magic show, sundae bar, arts and crafts, and a clown!

— Just a reminder for students that are planning to run for an office for next semester: petitions are due Monday, March 1st in Student Activities.

The elections for Senate and Class Offices will be held on Tuesday, March 23rd, from 4pm-5pm in the Campus Center.

— If anyone has any grievance about the way things are done at this school, please let Senate know about them.

Please write your grievance on a piece of paper and bring it to the Senate Office (Room 142 in the Campus Center).

Internet News

Fun Links for February

From the [illegible] of the D'A[illegible] Library [illegible] wm.edu [illegible] at pull up [illegible] world of [illegible] Net [illegible] but [illegible]

Some of [illegible] well

On [illegible] down [illegible] Here [illegible] your world [illegible] Where [illegible] to [illegible] Some of [illegible] interesting [illegible] exists.

CONCERT MUSIC

Addicted to Noise — Online rock [illegible]

Ticketmaster Online — Order tickets or [illegible] for concerts, theatrical performances and [illegible]

StatOn@sony.com — Play [illegible] Wheel of [illegible] and [illegible] associated [illegible]

Trivial Pursuit Genus IV — Online [illegible] for popular [illegible]

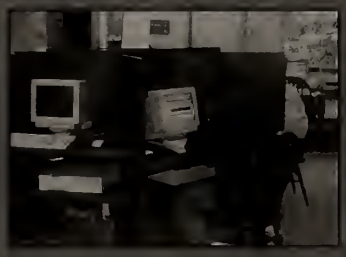
GREAT OUTDOORS

GORP - Great Outdoor Recreation Pages — [illegible] Visit New England

MOVIES/REVIEWS

Internet Movie Database — [illegible] movie [illegible] movie [illegible] movie [illegible]

Movie Review Query Engine at Telerama — Search over 60,000 movie reviews.



PollStar - The Concert Hotwire — Welcome to the home of the [illegible] most accurate comprehensive and up to date concert [illegible]

Ultimate Band List — The UBL is a [illegible] standing pad to all music destinations on the Web. The UBL serves as a comprehensive [illegible] index of all web sites [illegible] to bands, record labels, CD purchasing, concerts, ticket sales, tours, radio stations, contests, magazines, chats, live broadcasts, artist biographies and [illegible]

CURRENT EVENTS

To do this week — Calendar of events for Western Massachusetts

Western Massachusetts Library, Museum and College Events — Calendar of events for Pittsfield, northwestern and central Massachusetts in Western Massachusetts.

GAMES

Christian Science Monitor Crossword Puzzle — Interactive crossword puzzle from the Christian Science Monitor

Fun Stuff — Collection of Web based interactive games including Web [illegible] and Microsoft [illegible]

Games Domain - The Gamer's Voice

SPORTS/SKI REPORTS

Boston Celtics — [illegible] Celtics [illegible]

ESPNET SportsZone — [illegible] sports [illegible]

NBA.com — [illegible] Scores, [illegible] National Basketball Association Home Page.

New England Patriots — Home Page of the New England Patriots

NFL.COM — [illegible] profiles, scores, standings, [illegible] National Football League Home Page

Ski Reports - North America and Europe — Alpine ski reports for the U.S., Canada and Europe

Springfield Falcons — Home Page of the American Hockey League's Springfield Falcons

www.nhl.com: National Hockey League Official Site — [illegible] scores [illegible] from the National Hockey League Home Page

TELEVISION

TV Guide Online — Includes [illegible] and [illegible] TV [illegible]

Ultimate TV — Television [illegible] site [illegible]

Students Go to Boston for Simulation

MODEL, from page 1

thing more involved and complex.

Initially the WNEC delegation was somewhat apprehensive about competing against schools that formally treat this conference as a part of their regular curricula.

However, outside research and preparation combined with a brief overview of the nation provided by Professor Vladimir Wozniuk helped the delegates to hold their own against the fiercest competition.

The delegation, which included three seniors, six juniors and four freshmen, came together as a group over the course of the weekend.

Many came to understand more intimately the concerns and mindsets of the country that they were forced to portray.

Representing a nation such as Belarus allowed students the opportunity to really explore a fuller realm of governmental systems.

Since Belarus is a fairly totalitarian and new-Stalinist nation, this provided a distinct challenge for the students to adapt and understand their position.

The interaction of WNEC students with students from around the world also added to the experience of the model UN. Many different perspectives were offered and represented, and compromise was the order of the day.

Students learned the delicate arts of inter-personal diplomacy and communication while at the same time attempting to define and defend their own national interests.

This sort of balancing took a great deal of commitment and focus, especially when given a rather contentious nation such as Belarus.

Preparations for next year have already begun, whether the PSA returns to Boston or attends a larger conference in New York.

Stageless Players Seek Cast and Crew

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

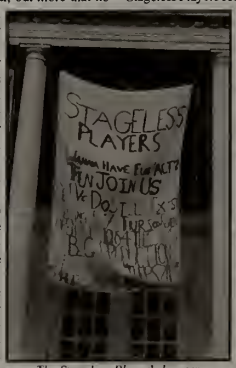
A few weeks ago, fliers lighted on the tables of the campus center, as well as other places on campus. These fliers announced the return of WNEC's theater club, the Stageless Players.

It was not that they had ceased to be last year, but more that no one had heard of what they were doing.

Last year the Stageless Players put on a Halloween party for a group called Between Family and Friends.

This group helps people who are dealing with the HIV virus.

A little more recently they preformed "Banana Pudding" and various smaller acts. Now they are getting ready for a larger performance.



The Stageless Player's banner hanging outside the Campus Center

The fliers were a casting call, which is still open to those who wish to act.

The faculty advisor of the program, Debora Kelleher from Alumni Relations, said, "Just do it. If you want to act, just come and do it."

The performance that will be put on between April 9 and 11 is called "Remote Kontrol," and consists of a variety of spoofs on the cast's favorite movies, songs, and television shows.

Some of the more popular entertainment being spoofed is Star Trek, The Crow, Far and Away, and Monty Python.

"We're back," commented Leana Montero, president of the Stageless Players, who hopes this year's troupe will be more noticed on campus.

And indeed they are, with this "Remote Kontrol" coming up in April, and a good membership, the Stageless Players seem to be making a comeback.

As for what the group will be doing next semester, that is anyones guess.

Debora said that the membership has a tendency to rotate, and at the beginning of each semester the group picks a play to perform depending on what the present members want.

They are also looking to fill other, non-acting positions, like costumes, tech support, props and lighting.

So if you don't like acting, feel free to join and help out with some backstage aspects.

If you have been in plays before, or have never acted before but want to see what it would be like, the Stageless Players invite you to visit one of their meetings from 5:00-7:00 Thursday nights in Rivers Hall.

You can also contact Debora Kelleher in Alumni Relations at extension 1400, or Leana Moneiro at extension 4421.

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Images from the Seniors' 99 Days Party

by Natalie Pisarcik
Staff Writer

"So we're going to party like there's 99 days left until we're outa here!"

That was the theme of the 99 Days party, and that is exactly what the class of 1999 did on Saturday, February 20th.

The festivities began at 8:00 p.m. in Dining Room A (although this writer didn't wander in until 9:30), and the crowd grew quickly.

The Seniors' favorite beverages were sold at $1 a piece and served by the Junior class. Free food was set up courtesy of the Senior Class (seniors love those chicken tenders!)

Good old time music, from Quiet Riot's "We're Not Gonna Take It" to the Beatles' "Twist and Shout" allowed seniors to definitely party it up.

Other great songs were also played as the seniors soon tore up Dining Room A's beer-stained rug.

Raffle tickets were sold at a dollar apiece, with the winners getting senior formal tickets or a senior week package.

It was a great time for all the seniors who will be leaving the doorstep of WNEC in less than 99 days. (Scary, isn't it? Scary in what ways, I'll leave you to figure out.

And just remember, seniors: we still have other senior events to have an even more shagadellic time — which mean's Mory's will have to have more great specials on our favorite beverages!

From Laos to America

LEE, from page 1

the threat of political persecution, Lee's father left his family in the village of Xieng Khouang around 1978 and traveled south to Thailand, one of the most common destinations for Latian refugees. Two years later, when Lee was about six, he returned.

"The first time he just escape from Laos, and he cannot bring us with him at that time, because we don't have much food. So when we come, many people came away from Laos to Thailand," Lee explained.

This time the family packed what it could and, along with other families in Xieng Khouang, began the long trek to Thailand. "It's not like we could just go by train or car," Lee recalled. "We have to escape from the mountain, just like hiking ... it's a long way. I can remember a little bit. The way from the house we live [in Laos] to Thailand is about fifteen or sixteen days, just by walking."

The country, Lee said, was "very big ... we crossed a couple of rivers, and go up and down difficult hills. It was so scary."

The biggest concern was for food — the families on the trip could only carry so much with them, and worried about their limited supply. Lee and his father, mother, sister and brother had to do with meager rations.

The group was also worried about discovery by the Latian communists. "If we see any communist soldiers, they might kill us," Lee said.

At night the refugees hid in the woods, building "little houses" out of branches and leaves, and avoiding native Latian people who might report them to the soldiers.

Although Lee and his family did not encounter any soldiers on their journey, they did have to check for land mines. "My father would walk before us, and he would say, 'Just follow my step. Don't step in any other place.' So we just walked like that, basically," he said.

The oldest of his siblings, Lee was sometimes responsible for his sister, four, and his brother, two. "I had to take care of them, make sure they don't get hurt. I still remember [my younger brother]," Lee said with a chuckle. "He don't walk yet, so my father put him on his shoulders."

Finally, toward the end of their journey, they arrived at the Mekong River, which marks the border between Laos and Thailand. There was no bridge then; the first bridge linking the countries would not be built, in fact, for nearly twenty years. "It was double the size of the Connecticut river," Lee said. To get his family across it, Lee's father made

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a train of inflatable vests connected with string, put them on his wife and children, and tied the string around his own vest before swimming the width of the river. "He put the string through his and ours and we just followed him," Lee recalled.

Lee and his family soon moved into the Ban Vinai refugee camp in Thailand, where they lived from 1982 to 1987. There Lee went to school. "I studied Thai, Lao, and my language, Hmong," Lee said. "[School] was so different from here. We cannot have long hair. We always cut our hair short. Our fingernails needed to be cut, we had to dress nice. Every morning before we go to class we had to stay outside and sing the international song." Following this, students were inspected, and their hair or fingernails were cut if found to be too long. "High school here is much different," Lee added with a smile.

Things were fine until the Thai government decided that all Latian refugees could no longer live in Thailand, and began sending them back to Laos. "We just escape from Laos, so my father decided to move to America," Lee said.

First, however, the Lee family moved to the Phanat Nikhom camp in Thailand, where Lee went to school for six months to study English and prepare himself for life in the United States.

By the time the family arrived, he was proficient enough to understand what was being said, but not enough to answer questions. He attended a special class for Asian students at Chestnut Middle School. Communication was still difficult, and for a while Lee spoke only to the teacher, since other students in the class spoke different Asian languages and dialects. Eventually, despite language barriers, Lee made friends.

His parents, however, spoke virtually no English, so Lee helped them fill out forms and translated for them.

Upon entering Commerce High School, he began taking summer language classes at the University of Massachusetts as part of an Upward Bound program. "It took a long time [to learn English]," Lee said. "I get better every year, I think."

After graduating from Commerce with a business diploma, Lee went on to college. "When I finish from high school I think my English is not good enough for me to go to a four year college," he said, and so he spent three years at Springfield Technical Community College before transferring to WNEC, where he is now majoring in computer information systems, and anticipating graduation this spring.

"I think it's very nice," Lee said of the College. "The campus is very small. I know every part of the buildings, so it's easy to get to classes. The classes are very small, so it's easy to get help from the professors." Many of the people he has met he knows through United and Mutually Equal.

After he graduates, Lee hopes to find a job, continue to improve his English through practice and classes, and perhaps earn another bachelor's degree in a subject area that interests him — "computer science, or maybe accounting." He may also return to Thailand, someday.

"I was thinking about going to visit Thailand, but not to Laos," he said. "In Thailand there's a lot of people to speak English to, and I speak Thai a little bit. There are houses and buildings, and the city is very nice. Compared to Laos, the conditions are very good."

Advice Column

Ask Sandy & Rizzo ...

(Sandy and Rizzo are The Westerner's advice columnists. It may not be good, but it's definitely advice.)

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

My roommate's birthday is in two weeks.

We get along well but I am not really good friends with her. Should I get her a present? If you think so, then what should I get her?

— Liz

How long have you know your roommate? If you've only known her for the past few moths, you probably shouldn't get her a present.

People are usually overwhelmed when they aren't "good friends" with.

If this is the case, you should give her a card. It would be a nice gesture that would let your roommate know you remembered her birthday.

If you've known her for a few years, you might want to get her a gift.

Maybe you can make, or buy, her a birthday cake.

Or you could always get a sweet handcream gift set. There are tons of nice presents out there for girls.

—Sandy

Yeah, even if you are not good friends with her, a card would be needed.

It is certainly worth the two bucks for the thought of remembering her birthday.

You could even save the two bucks and make a sweet card in a few minutes.

People always appreciate hand made things. (Ever hear of the Arts & Crafts room in the campus center?)

If you have lived together for some time, then you have probably passed through birthdays in the past.

Did you buy gifts then? Has your friendship faded?

You claim that you are not really friends right now but just housemates.

If that is so, then you should not feel the need to spend money on her.

We are all college students and no one really has spare money to buy gifts for people, especially people that you don't care to buy for.

Just remember, whatever you decide dictates what she gets you for your birthday.

***Rizzo

Dear Sandy & Rizzo,

I am going to Florida with me friends for spring break.

My boyfriend has known about this trip since October.

Just last week we had a fight because he is afraid that I am going to hook up with some guy in a bar.

How can I convince him that I'll 'be good' while I am on vacation.

—Upset

It doesn't sound like your boyfriend trusts you.

If that is the case, then nothing you can say will make him believe you.

He will probably interrogate you about the trip as soon as step off the plane.

I hope I am wrong about this but I don't think I am.

Trust is an incredibly important part of a relationship.

You should tell him that. Tell him that he will just have to trust you.

If he still doesn't believe you, then just leave it at that.

Go on your trip, have fun, and be a 'good girl'. Then when you return, tell him that you had fun without hooking up with random guys in bars.

Perhaps that will build his trust in you.

Sorry I couldn't give better advice. Good Luck!

—Sandy

Well, my main question is, are you really NOT going to hook up with random guys in bars????

If you are not but he is still upset, just forget it. He will have to deal.

There is nothing that you can do to make him believe you, even if he knows you are each other's number one.

Sandy is right in saying that trust is extremely important, 'cause, well, it is.

I am sure he will be able to deal with it just fine.

But if you feel you may mess around to get your kicks, then have fun.

Don't worry about your fights with your 'boyfriend' since they are well deserved.

We are all still young and need to live a little.

Who the heck is he to stop you anyway?

***Rizzo

If you have a question for Sandy and Rizzo, send it to Box 1234.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

It was 12:30 in the afternoon on a Thursday, and WNEK was playing a collection of favorite 80's music in the Campus Center Mall Area. We were taken back to days of teased bangs, leather vests, first dates and, of course, audio cassettes. So in keeping with the spirit of the music we asked...

... What is your favorite 80's movie?

"Wallstreet"
~John Hammel

"Fast Times at Ridgemont High"
~Helena Cul (right)

"Breakfast Club"
~Tanya Vabalas (middle)

"Goonies"
~Jenn Pryor (left)

"Top Gun"
~Lisa DiTarranto (right)

"Terms of Endearment"
~Amanda Walsh (middle)

"For Keeps"
~Laura Weisman (left)

"Breakfast Club"
~Angie DeSantis (right)

"Ferris Bueller's Day Off"
~Ivan Segal (left)

"The Karate Kid"
~Ryan Courtemanche (above)

"Revenge of the Nerds I & II"
~Jen Cunningham (left)

WNEC Sports Have Been Changing for the Better

When I first attended this college three and a half years ago, I thought I was lucky. Why, you say?

I thought I was lucky for the reason that I was going to be able to play a varsity collegiate sport for Western New England College.

I was the only one of out of my North New Jersey State Championship winning field hockey team in high school that would actually be playing college field hockey.

It would be Division three field hockey, but in my eyes it didn't matter - it was college field hockey. It's amazing how naive I was back then.

I was a goalie, and the then head coach begged me to join the team. I excitedly agreed, and couldn't wait for my first taste of college hockey. That first taste, however, was a bitter one.

My freshman season was long and hard, and nothing of what I expected. We had a total of 20 games jammed into a month and half season.

We were stuck playing division two schools who would destroy us, burying us into the grass.

Our away team uniforms were gold and black (which we all loved in the blistering sun), while our home team uniforms were blue and white, and to top it all off, our actual school colors were blue and gold.

As goalie, my pads consisted of some toilet paper and some tape. I didn't even receive a uniform, I had to steal some football player's jersey and buy a pair of WNEC shorts to cover my naked, bruised legs.

As the years went by things began to degrade even more. Our same good old black and gold uniforms were now being covered up by blue and white warm up suits ten times the size of us. Teams would threaten to call the fashion police before destroying us on the field.

The uniforms made us look like complete slobs who didn't seem to care. They were old and extremely uncomfortable.

I was once again stuck with the same old circa 1970 football jersey. By now I was getting used to the refs constant yelling about the uniform I was required to wear. It was

either the jersey or nothing, I would tell the refs, what more could I do?

My circa 1980 bamboo pads weren't giving much protection either. My only defense was constantly eating at the dining hall, which would allow my own body fat to protect me (that is my new excuse for being overweight), and my wonderful already bruised and battered defensive line, which I am still very grateful for.

The highlight of it all was the infamous van trips/journeys that we would take for away games.

We would line up out in front of the AHLC waiting patiently for two rusty rattling vans to come from the facilities management building.

When the vans would finally arrive, we would quickly cram all of our equipment, supplies, laughter, gossip, and homework into the death trap that awaited us.

As the vans would pull onto Wilbraham Road, one might lose its gas, or its muffler, or one van might even explode, but we were always determined to move on.

The violent shaking and the burning smell of the vans never phased us as we weaved in and out of traffic on the Mass. Pike.

And the rocking and swaying of the van, as we reached speeds of 50 miles per hour never seemed to keep us unfocused about the upcoming game.

We would move on, many of us catching up on sleep, doing homework, or just singing along to the blown-out-speakered radio which only seemed to find two stations: one country, and one continuously playing Phil Collins.

Out of all the near death experiences (usually from van #7), losses, bruises and cuts, and those long trips, we were able to bond together tighter and learned what being a division three athlete is all about — blood, sweat and tears without the scholarship.

We made the best of what we had, which wasn't very much.

Now I'm a senior, and this past fall I finished my last and final season as a field hockey player. And a man by the name of Coach Theulin was now in charge, and in the blink of an eye our athletic program as a whole had changed completely.

There would be no more black and gold uniforms, deadly van experiences, unpraised hard working athletes. And for the first time in the four years, I had played for the school, we were welcomed back at the end of summer with open arms, we were praised for being WNEC athletes.

We had been given pep-rallies, sports banquets, and even varsity letters! It was a complete 180-degree change (if it were 360 degrees, we'd be right back to where we started!) from the following past three seasons.

And for the first time, I felt proud to be a WNEC athlete.

I know I am not the only athlete that feels this way, and the field hockey team is not the only team that has come a long way since the fall of 1995.

What a long, bumpy, hard trip it has been since the first day I stepped on that playing field. I wish and hope this change will stay, and that there are more positive changes to come.

Natalie Pisarcik

Life is About Taking Responsibility

Everything that I have written about in these newspaper editorials has generally had one common theme.

Whether the subject was curriculum, or optimism, or our philandering President, one common theme has unified all of it.

That theme is responsibility.

Personal responsibility is the heart and soul of everything that I believe in. Unfortunately, I have begun to notice a general societal trend toward lessening the importance of personal responsibility. Instead of accepting the consequences for one's actions, people are becoming too interested in shifting blame elsewhere.

I hope to reinstill some belief in the importance of responsibility in this editorial.

The first instance that I want to look at is the crisis involving President Clinton and his affair with Monica Lewinsky.

This affair, and all of the mess that came out of it, is purely the fault of the "man" at the center, Bill Clinton. I place the word "man" in quotes because I don't want to insult half of the world's population by placing President Clinton in the same category as the rest of men.

The most galling aspect of this whole affair was the President's inability to accept responsibility for his actions and seek forgiveness.

The affair was wrong, the lying and obstruction were criminal, and his lack of responsibility is disgusting.

Constantly, the President and his defenders have sought to push blame onto others; the Republicans, Monica Lewinsky, Linda Tripp, Ken Starr, etc.

The President's "apology" made matters even worse. There was absolutely no sincerity in it; it was purely designed to make people forgive him.

Had he been sincere, he would have resigned, pure and simple.

The next example of the disappearance of responsibility lies in the recent "crusade" by State Attorney General's to sue tobacco companies for the costs of taking care of the medical costs for people that smoke cigarettes.

This case is perhaps the clearest example that responsibility doesn't matter much anymore.

Let us see if we can't decipher each example of people not taking responsibility for their actions.

First, people choose to smoke.

Hate to break this to you, but smoking is voluntary. I chose to do it when I was ten years old, and I chose to stop when I was seventeen.

Nobody forced me to smoke, nor did they force me to keep smoking. My smoking was purely out of my own desire. I accept responsibility for my actions. If I were diagnosed with lung cancer tomorrow, I would have nobody to blame but myself.

The upshot of this is that I would never even consider blaming the tobacco companies for creating a product that I voluntarily chose to use.

Second, the people that blame the tobacco companies for the ills of smoking propose to raise the price of cigarettes to abnormally high levels in order to raise tax money and discourage smoking.

However, a fundamental flaw exists in this logic. The argument of anti-smokers is that tobacco companies are to blame for people smoking because people cannot choose to quit because smoking is addictive.

However, if people cannot choose to quit, how can we force them to pay more for something that they have no control over purchasing?

This sort of question leads the observer to realize that most of the politicians that sue tobacco companies are simply too self-centered and arrogant to bother accepting any responsibility for their shameless self-promotion.

The tobacco issue leads us directly into the next issue I wish to look at: the holding of gun manufacturers responsible for the damage caused by guns.

Folks, I would laugh out loud about this issue if it weren't so painfully true.

There are honestly people out there that think that it is a companies fault if their product causes harm.

We aren't talking about malfunctions or faulty manufacuring, we are talking about a product that functions correctly. How can you blame a company if its product works correctly?

Essentially, my point is that it isn't a gun company's fault if someone uses that gun to shoot somebody.

Look at it this way; my company builds a gun.

We then ship that gun to a gun dealer. The gun dealer sells it to Person X, Person Y comes along and steals it, then uses it to hold up a convenience store.

How can a thinking person come to the conclusion that this crime is somehow the fault of the company?

Perhaps it is just me, but I think the person to blame for the crime would be... surprise, the person that committed the crime! Whoa! I know it is a shocking thing to think, holding the criminal responsible for his crime.

Whew, truly shocking.

I hope you have picked up on my sarcasm by now folks.

It is just that this issue is so important to me that I can't help but get upset thinking about it.

The worst part of it is not that most of you will probably disagree with me, it is that most of you won't even care.

Apathy goes hand in hand with a removal of responsibility.

I want to just stress to you the importance of standing up and doing things for yourself, then accepting the responsibility for the outcome, whether it be good or bad.

In each of the above cases a lack of responsibility showed itself; whether it was the President avoiding what he caused, smokers avoiding the consequences of their actions, or society trying to blame someone wealthier than criminals for the costs of crime.

The point remains that responsibility is the direct outgrowth of freedom of choice. If we disregard the former, we might find that we no longer possess the latter.

Craig Nakashian

Letters to the Editor

Too Many Eyesores are Polluting WNEC's Campus

I am writing this letter to bring attention to two particular things on campus that are just plain silly.

First, I would like to address the butchering of trees on campus. The trees I am particularly speaking of are in Gateway Village just left of the Herman Stairs.

Why did the school remove those trees? I have searched for reasons, but found none. I could only think of the benefits they served.

First, they absorb noise produced from the traffic on Wilbraham road.

Second, they blocked the nearby apartments from dirt kicked up by the traffic.

Lastly, the trees block the old rusted fence and dirty concrete wall. Now that these trees are gone, the area is so bare; it's an eyesore.

But not to worry, I'm sure the area will be covered with some famous WNEC mulch, which will remedy the problem.

The second area of my concern is the plethora of signage on campus.

On the service road, which leads from Wilbraham road, along side of the Healthful Living Center there are approximately 30 signs.

Now I'm not the smartest person in the world, but for any road, even one that is that short and rarely used, that is an absurd amount of signs.

Second, there are seven signs on the gate leading to the backfields. Seven signs for a fence, which at most might be twelve feet long.

Third, there are approximately fifteen signs on the road that leads from Wilbraham road along side of Plymouth to the HLC.

The newest addition to the ridiculous collection of signs is the NO ANIMALS ALLOWED signs. About a dozen of these new signs were recently put up.

Now I'm a little confused. First, the signs are eyesores. They are printed in bright red capital letters.

At least they could look similar to the other scores of signs on campus.

Second, does this mean that animals, such a squirrels and birds, currently living on WNEC grounds have to move?

And since when can animals read?

I guess this means you can no longer bring your furry member of the family for a visit, or to enjoy a WNEC sporting event. But seriously, I'm assuming the signs are meant for people walking their dogs.

Maybe the appropriate sign, if absolutely necessary, should read "curb your dog"!

In addition to the permanent signs, you may have noticed temporary signs, which are used to direct visitors for things such as workshops and open houses.

If additional signs are needed, does this mean the army of existing signs is not working? Maybe we should look into more efficient signs.

But on a serious note, I guess no one realized the major problem with the temporary signs.

They block the view of traffic when you are trying to exit the campus.

My main reason for writing this letter is to address these small things which seem like a waste. These things are defacing our beautiful campus. I hope you can read this and understand where I am coming from.

Kevin Drozdowski

No, Cheerleading is Not *a Sport*

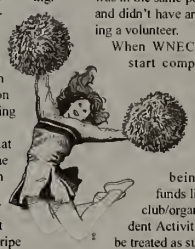
A sports article in the February 12th issue of *The Westerner* claimed that cheerleading is not considered a sport because the members do not "directly compete against an opponent on the field or on the court."

Then what I'd like to know is what are those shows on ESPN2, on Sunday afternoons for example, that show cheerleaders from different schools each competing against one another.

They perform routines, with energy and style, and they demonstrate talent and hours of long, hard work.

They definitely aren't just standing there to "bang their pompoms together."

But if you've attended football or basketball games in the last few years, that's all the Western New England College cheerleaders really seem to be doing.



I will acknowledge the performances during the half-time show, but does it count when they get dropped on their butts after falling from a pyramid?

I understand that each member of the team is coming from a different background and level of experience, but that isn't an excuse to gripe and whine — and neither is the lack of a coach.

And I certainly don't think that performing without one should be considered "courageous."

If you don't have a coach, go out and find one. The Dance Team was in the same position last year and didn't have any trouble finding a volunteer.

When WNEC cheerleaders start competing against other schools, I'll recognize them as a sport.

Until then, they are being allocated funds like every other club/organization in Student Activities and should be treated as such.

I say if you want to be considered a sport, get up off your bruised butts and show some effort on your part.

Until then, stop your whining.

Anonymous

Students Should Worry About Privacy

I write you this letter to make a point, or possibly to open the eyes of students.

Students are most often concerned with privacy when it comes to public safety/residence life issues, such as searches, etc. But there are two other aspects of privacy which I feel are violated as a student of this community.

The first issue concerns student employees working in SAS. I commonly hear these students saying that they have codes to change grades, etc.

From what I am told by student employees, some common tasks they might perform may include putting grades into the computer and other types of filing.

I don't feel comfortable knowing this. Any student can look up any of my personal information including student loans, billing, grades, address, and student ID numbers (social security numbers).

Should work-study students have such unlimited access to the personal business of their peers?

The next issue of concern involves peer advisors. They too have the capability to look up schedules, grades, and addresses of students.

This issue really bothers me. I don't feel comfortable with the possibility that students have such access to my personal information. I trust no one.

How do I know whom they talk to or tell?

These people may be looked upon with high regard, but they are still just students, and why should they be trusted more than the next person should?

Much damage can be done to an individual with this available personal information. More than one may realize.

Has a student ever before been out of line and used the personal information of another student? If this hasn't happened yet, will it ever happen in the future?

People may think I am being petty. Just think how common it is, although illegal, for a vendor to ask for a driver's license number or social security number on a check. Or people who have that information printed on checks.

Remember this, you don't have to provide that information to anyone!

It is illegal! Believe this from a person who had fraud committed against them.

Anonymous

Student Looks to Start Amnesty Chapter at WNEC

At this very moment, as you read this paper, someone is crying out for help.

It could be a Mexican writer locked up for expressing his opinions; it could he a Tibetan thrown into slavery for peacefully fighting for freedom, or a sixteen year old sitting on Death Row here in the United States, one of few nations in the world that executes children.

Who of good conscience can watch these things happening and not want to do something about it?

Working to free these people doesn't require your labor, your time, or your money - only a letter, through Amnesty International.

Amnesty International, or AI, is a worldwide volunteer organization working for Human Rights the world over, and to free all Prisoners of Conscience.

These are people detained for their political, religious, or conscientiously held beliefs, or because of their ethnic origin, sex, language, social class, or sexual orientation. It works to ensure fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners.

AI works against the torture and ill-treatment of prisoners, and against the inherent cruelty and injustice of the Death Penalty.

Political killings and "disappearances" are also opposed by the actions of AI.

Finally, Amnesty International supports the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and for the day when all people can experience freedom, equality, and justice.

Amnesty fights against oppression through the power of publicity and nonviolence. When a Human Rights violation happens, Amnesty gets the word out through Urgent Action Appeals released to chapters in 162 countries.

"Disappearances" and unjust arrests happen in the shadows, but are not likely to remain when cast under the light of world scrutiny and condemnation.

Once the injustice is known worldwide, the letters begin.

Each Amnesty member writes just one letter to an official in the prisoner's country asking for the prisoner's release.

This may not seem like much, but when over 1,000,000 letters arrive from 162 countries, in truckload after truckload, the leaders know their offenses cannot stand, things get changed, and people are freed.

It is only the work of a few moments for your own words to make a difference.

Amnesty does more than just write letters however.

The group organizes concerts, demonstrations, and even more creative ways to fight for Human Rights.

Campaigns are started when a local chapter focuses its energies on one issue.

Some current campaigns are against child labor in Southeast Asia, and equal rights for women around the world.

A main campaign is fighting for Human Rights in the U.S., which has been condemned for its blatant violations of International law, such as executing 16 year old Sean Sellers this month.

The U.S. has yet to sign the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

It is easy to succumb to anger whenever one hears of the abuses people face worldwide.

But when injustice appears, Amnesty memhers get active, using the power of the pen and nonviolence for the defense of oppressed people everywhere.

An Amnesty student chapter is forming here at WNEC. All it takes to cause a change is one letter.

For more information visit the AI website at www.amnesty.org or the USA campaign page at http://rightsforall-usa.org.

Anyone interested in being part of a WNEC chapter of AI should leave a note for James is the Student Publications Office with a name and a phone number or e-mail address.

James Russell

Celebrate Differences; Don't Just Tolerate Them

Black history month is coming to a close, and I'd like to take this space to mention diversity issues across races, cultures, genders and just about whatever else could be different about people.

February at WNEC has brought amazing displays of talent, motivation, and teaching to campus. Let's not let it stop there.

We've had lectures, presentations, meals, concerts, meetings, and all sorts of things to celebrate one piece of diversity on campus. I believe it is now time to expand this beginning and educate WNEC students and faculty, as well as the local community, about some of what is going on in the U.S. and throughout the world.

I want to make it clear at the start that I don't believe in tolerance. There are tolerance seminars in almost all walks of life, and some of them are required training for people starting or continuing their careers.

Tolerance is basically a willingness to inhabit the same place as somebody else. It can be practiced passively simply by ignoring people who might be different from you and allowing them the right to breathe.

I don't like that idea one bit.

I believe that we should be teaching appreciation and love, and celebrating every chance we get.

The Human Relations Committee at WNEC has been taking some major steps toward celebrating diversity on this campus.

The committee is looking at ways to implement some of the ideas brought forth during the Wellen-Davison seminar in January (see the previous issue of The Westerner).

In a mass e-mail to the campus community, Nancy Thomas announced that Edward Beckham, formerly of Wesleyan University, will be speaking this afternoon at an event sponsored by the Diversity Committee. He will be returning in the Fall to catch up on WNEC's progress as a diverse community.

WNEC is a small school, yet it can claim to be as diverse, if not more so, than other, larger colleges and universities.

Aside from just knowing your fellow students, who will be spotlighted in coming issues of The Westerner, you should be aware of what is going on in the outside world that may affect people here at WNEC.

Mumia Abu-Jamal sits on death row in Pennsylvania. He has been convicted of a crime he may very well not have committed.

A Black revolutionary journalist, Abu-Jamal was convicted of killing a White police officer with a gun he kept in the taxi-cab he drove for a living.

He has written a book, Live From Death Row, about his life experiences. The book includes National Public Radio interviews that were not aired.

Professor Jean-Marie Vianney Higiro is a Rwandan refugee, and former head of the information office of that country. He was profiled in *The Westerner* last Spring. He is still waiting to be able to return to Rwanda.

In international Jewish news, Orthodox and Reform Jews held opposing rallies on the same day in Jerusalem's Old City section.

The two groups have been clashing of late over the very question of who is Jewish, and who gets to make the laws in Israel and enforce them.

With echoes of Matt Shepard still ringing throughout the U.S., gay rights groups are still trying to get the world to understand that there really isn't any difference between homosexuals and heterosexuals except who they'd like to be in bed with. Seems like an awfully petty thing to kill someone over.

A former anchorwoman for CBS news was not offered a contract renewal. She took the company's move to mean that it didn't need her because she was a woman in her 40s. She was awarded $8.1 million in a lawsuit and is now working for Hartford's NBC affiliate.

A professor at American International College here in Springfield was not handed a raise, and subsequently sued the school, claiming discrimination. Following the filing of the suit, she was placed on paid suspension. The case is still pending.

Diversity does not just reach to groups. Look around at your classmates. Who is a single mother, working two jobs and going to school to further her career while raising two young children?

Who around you has been rewarded lately for some heroic act that you may never know about?

Who has lived some of the same experiences as you, and could be one of the few who appreciates what you do, what you've done, and how you live?

Know that every day, everywhere you go, you are surrounded by people who have stories to tell: stories of hardship, stories of joy, and just plain old stories of life.

If you can call stories of life "plain old."

Keep your eyes open and pay attention: your life could be changing soon.

Josh Shear

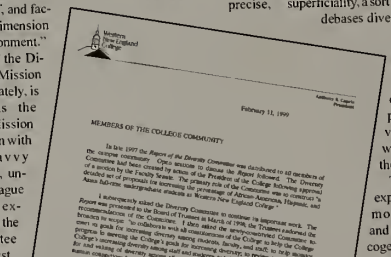
Important Issue Hurt by Bad Writing

New Mission Statement Gets Lost in a Muck of Language

On February 11, 1999, the President's office issued a statement to the members of the college community, partly to summarize the recent work of the Diversity Committee, and partly to announce the new Diversity Committee Mission Statement. This mission statement operates within the broader scope of the College's Mission Statement, which asserts that "the College values diversity in students, staff, and faculty as an essential dimension of the learning environment."

Diversity

The language of the Diversity Committee Mission Statement, unfortunately, is as inscrutable as the College's parent Mission Statement. It is laden with management-savvy words and phrases, unnecessary clauses, vague assertions. For example, it states that the Diversity Committee must act as "a catalyst, resource, initiator, advocate, and model for efforts to enhance the diversity of the Western New England College community." What precisely does this mean? How does one initiate diversity? How does one model diversity?



Western New England College

Anthony A. Cioppi
President

February 11, 1999

MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

In late 1997 the *Report of the Diversity Committee* was distributed to all members of the campus community. Open sessions to discuss the *Report* followed. The Diversity Committee had been created by action of the President of the College following approval of a motion by the Faculty Senate. The primary role of the Committee was to construct "a detailed set of proposals for improving the presence of African-American, Hispanic, and Asian full-time undergraduate students at Western New England College."

I subsequently asked the Diversity Committee to continue its important work. The *Report* was presented to the Board of Trustees in March of 1998, the Trustees endorsed the recommendation of the Committee. I then asked the newly-constituted Committee to bring to me a plan for increasing diversity among students, faculty, and staff, to help shape a program for improving the College's goals for increasing diversity, to review periodically the College's progress in achieving these goals, and to help ensure an attitude of respect for and welcoming of diversity among staff and students, to help create an atmosphere of human relations between the College and local communities on campus, and to help create and sustaining of diversity among staff and students as an essential dimension of the learning environment."

The College then adopted a new Mission Statement, and a Strategic Plan in September, 1998. The Mission Statement included a commitment to creating a community in which the College values diversity in students, staff, and faculty as an essential dimension of the learning environment."

In Fall, 1998 the Committee assessed progress in implementing the recommendations of the *Diversity Report*; they will communicate the findings of their status report directly to the campus.

In light of the Strategic Plan and the Diversity Commission status report, I charged the Committee with the responsibility of developing and promulgating follow-up initiatives. In December, 1998 the Committee adopted the following Mission Statement which establishes the standards by which the Committee will advance the work on behalf of all of us at the College:

Rather than clarifying, this language obfuscates rather than clarifies. What specifically does this mean? What is a diverse culture? How is culture created?

Or consider the following guiding principle of the Diversity Committee Mission Statement: "The basis for the development of goals and objectives resides in the ongoing assessment of relevant benchmarks in achieving a diverse community." What does *that* mean? Presumably it means that the Diversity Committee must think carefully before making decisions. They might have thought more carefully before writing that sentence. (To quibble a bit, is it really necessary to distinguish between goals and objectives? Aren't they more or less the same thing? And what is meant by "relevant benchmarks"?)

It is a shame that this sub-Mission Statement is written in the pseudo-legalese of upper management, and not in the clear, precise, rational language we should expect from an academic institution. It is bombastic, silly, and makes excellent fodder for cartoons like *Doonesbury* and *Dilbert*. Words like "catalyst," "proactive," "solution-seekers," and "paradigm," are terribly ineffective because they express little or nothing. They obfuscate rather than clarify.

And if there is an issue that deserves clarity and precision, it is the issue of diversity. What does it mean to be diverse? What is the relationship between individuality and diversity? Can we measure it qualitatively — by "race, ethnicity, religion, age, sexual orientation, class, national origin, gender, and relating to disabilities" — as the Mission Statement suggests?

Certainly any college's Mission Statement would want to protect current or prospective students from any sort of discrimination. But diversity, one imagines, might go beyond that. And if the College chooses to measure diversity only by the ratio of "students of color" to other students, and to adopt strategies for attracting students of color only to meet the dictates of a flailing Mission Statement, it risks falling into a sort of superficiality, a sort of myopia, that debases diversity. It would be shamefully ironic if diversity issues actually blunted our ability to perceive in individuals that which makes them unique.

To the end of exploring diversity more delicately, and hopefully more cogently, *The Westerner* will be running a series of articles profiling students on campus — not to prove that Western New England College is already diverse (probably it is not), or to prescribe a solution to these complicated issues. Instead, we hope to introduce to the community some of the students who are unique, not only for race, gender, religion, etc., but for the experiences they have had, and the way they have lived and are living.

Often, but not always, race, gender, religion, etc. *do* play relevant roles in these experiences, but are we ready to conclude that these are the only meaningful factors in the wide sphere of human experience?

Hopefully our notion of diversity will amount to more than a system of vague classification, and we may end up finding diversity in ways we hadn't expected.

Whatever we learn, we might at least be reasonably articulate about it.

Wayne Barr

Adjunct Professor Impresses Students

For those of you who were unable to attend Dr. Steve Sobel's lecture on February 11, I take pity on you. Sobel has taught at WNEC part-time for the past ten years, and if you haven't had a class with him, you should check it out. It will truly be an enjoyable classes.

So, for those of you who had other engagements, here is what you missed: "Visionary Leadership, Only the Bold Need Apply."

Sobel started off by telling the audience that LEADERS (Let Everyone Develop Energy and Resiliency) are the key factors to becoming successful, whether professionally or socially.

In the jam-packed hour that he spoke, he mesmerized the audience and made them think about their lives. His one-liners captured the true essence of leadership and his presentation.

As I left I realized that in one hour I'd learned what many people take their whole lives to realize. Leadership is about letting others make decisions, giving power to the employee, making people feel special, and pushing people off a cliff, not to fall, but to fly.

Ryan Courtemancha

Offspring Album a Sad Commentary

by Josh Shear
Editor

When Dexter Holland dies, he should donate his throat to medical science.

There are many vocalists on the national circuit who scream, yell, grunt, growl and otherwise torture their larynxes, but no one does it as, well, effortlessly as Holland does.

The Offspring's latest album, *Americana*, utilizes Holland's voice to an extreme that for many people would lead to life-long vocal cord damage. Every time it seems as though he's reached his limit, he pushes a few steps further.

If anything about the album is more surprising than Holland's voice, it is his lyrics.

Americana is potentially among the most lyrically offensive album in recent memory if you're not able to handle the sarcasm. It ranks up there with some of Tom Lehrer's material as a critique of American society.

There are two singles currently being played on the radio, "Pretty Fly (For a White Guy)" and "Why Don't You Get a Job?"

"Pretty Fly" is a song about a young man trying to fit in in a cross-racial community, but he never does quite make it. Rock legends Def Leppard make an appearance on the tune.

"Why Don't You Get a Job?" is a spoof on the Beatles' "Ob-la-di Ob-la-da."

Holland says he wrote the song after watching a television talk show about girlfriends who support their musician boyfriends who swear the band is going someplace and will pay them back, "someday."

On a more serious note, though, are songs like "The Kids Aren't Alright," "She's Got Issues," and "Walla Walla," a song about a petty thief who turns to bigger things (cars) and winds up in jail.

Holland also wrote a lyrical parody of Morris Albert's standard "Feelings." Holland's take on the song substitutes hate and revulsion for the sentimentality of the original.

Frank Kozik lends his illustrative expertise to the liner notes, drawing cartoonish interpretations of all the songs.

The CD also has a CD-ROM interactive element to it, which includes videos for six of the songs, and a cyber karaoke bar, replete with teleprompted lyrics and instrumental versions of some of the songs.

Know of any concerts in the area? How about any CDs that need reviewing? Come write for the Living Arts section.

Fire & Water Hosts Outstanding Independent Performers

by Josh Shear
Editor

On Thursday, February 18, the Fire & Water Cafe on Old South St. in Northampton was host to two wonderful but very different shows.

Kris Delmhorst played an hour and a half-long set to a full crowd.

A singer/songwriter from the Boston area, Delmhorst traveled with her acoustic guitar and flowery voice, and was all smiles as she bantered back and forth with the audience.

There are many words that could he used to describe Delmhorst's set, but fun might be the most accurate.

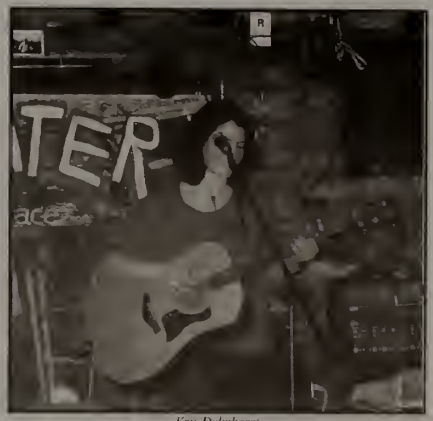
She certainly did not stand around looking like a statue with a tape deck playing out of its mouth, and she definitely did not get offensive and over-adrenalized; she was calm, but very lively.

Highlights of the show included "Sleeping Days" and "Gravity," but the real crowd-pleaser was "North Dakota."

The cafe itself is a great place for artists like Delmhorst. They are able to see the audience, and the audience is able to be comfortable during the performance, thanks to sofa benches and a wonderful staff.

Fire & Water owner Star Drooker opened the space for music "in the spirit of Jesse," his son, who lived 19 days.

Although she had a microphone and her guitar was plugged in, Delmhorst had the option to lose her leashes and wander into the audience — everybody would have been able to hear her for the size of the room and the attentiveness of the audience. She didn't take that opportunity, but the fact that it was open to her was great.



Kris Delmhorst

About 20 minutes after Delmhorst wrapped up, f-hole, a free-form jazz trio from New York City, took things into their own hands.

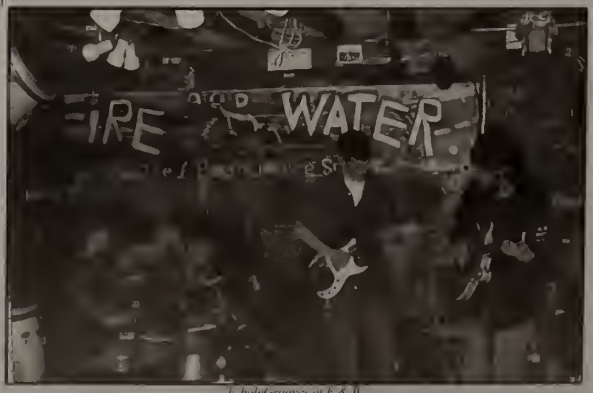
While many people had left the cafe by the time f-hole started to play, they pulled together two tightly jammed out sets, making good use of their musical knowledge.

Percussionist J.P. Wasicko really held the grooves together, while bassist Matt Kohut showed excellent skill and creativity on his instrument.

Guitarist Scott Metzger played well, although he sometimes seemed a little short of ideas.

F-hole's show was much less interactive than Delmhorst's, but the hand was very friendly toward its audience.

For more information on Kris Delmhorst, write to her at P.O. Box 440283, Somerville, MA, 02144.



F-holeGrooves at F & W

Bowling Team Rolls Over Hard Times

Athletes Excel in Tournament Despite Loss of Coach

by Kevin Hassett
Staff Writer

The members of the Western New England College Bowling team have gone through a lot lately.

Dr. Caprio poses with the WNEC bowling team

Not only did they have a big tournament this past weekend, but they bowled in this tournament just days after attending the funeral for the man responsible for building the bowling program, and who also was a former professor here at WNEC, Coach Dick Burns.

All the members of the team wore black ribbons to remember their fallen leader and will do so the rest of this season and next year as well.

The new coach for the team is Pat Keating, who graduated WNEC in 1997 after bowling on the team for three years.

When asked about Mr. Burns, Keating said, "He meant a lot to everybody, we're doing this for Coach (Burns) and anything we've accomplished this year was for Coach, and it will be that way forever as far as I'm concerned."

With that in mind, the team (ranked #45 out of all bowling schools in the nation) went to Riverdale Lanes in West Springfield to compete in the ACU-I Region I (Northeast) tournament.

WNEC sent teams A and B to go up against squads from Bryant College, Sacred Heart University, and the University of Connecticut. At stake for the teams were three spots in a national tournament in Baltimore on March 20-21.

For the individuals, a spot in the ACU-I National Tournament in Syracuse, New York on May 7th was at stake should that person win the all-events.

This year, there is a little bit extra involved. Should that individual do well enough in the national tournament, he will be on the US Olympic Bowling team for Sydney 2000.

Last year, WNEC bowler Paul Nuzzo made it to the ACU-I Nationals in Reno, Nevada and placed fourth.

Would another WNEC bowler do it again this year? Well the answer is yes, and that bowler was Freshman Rob Volk who bowled a total of 2099 for 9 games.

In Volk's final game, he made a close brush up with perfection bowling a fabulous 288, opening with ten straight strikes before narrowly missing an attempt at number eleven (twelve strikes would have been a perfect 300).

"I'm very excited. I came here with a goal today and that was to win the all-events." Volk said.

Volk also seemed to be particularly excited about having the chance to bowl to be on the US Olympic Team.

"To go out and represent not only my school but my country would just be incredible."

As for the team performance, WNEC teams A and B placed second and third with a total of 9439 and 9314 respectively. Sacred Heart University came in first with a total of 9517.

Captain Pete Fowler, who bowled in his last ACU-I Regional tournament, commented on the day saying, "I'm very pleased with both our teams performance. We both did very well. I was happy to see our second team get out there and bowl with everyone else."

Fowler also talked about Coach Burns, saying, "After all the things he did for us, we have to give something back to him. He has given so much to the program and has really been there for everyone on the team this season, and my last four years. It's really tough to not see him back here while we're bowling."

Dr. Caprio was in attendance for this tournament, and afterwards had this to say: "The spirit that we saw today is part of the bowling team and I've learned that a lot of that had to do with Coach Burns. In his own quiet but dynamic way, he was a remarkable person and I think these bowlers were motivated by his memory."

Bowlers Bid Farewell to Coach Burns

Paul Nuzzo, a junior and member of the bowling team delivered the following eulogy at Burns's memorial service.

Dear Coach

We want to thank you for all the help and support you have given us over the years.

You have made a positive difference to each one of us in a way that only you know how. In a way it it were not for you, we would not have been brought together.

You started the Tri-State Conference and you started the bowling program here at Western New England College.

You brought together one of the best groups of bowlers the college circuit has ever seen.

We want to thank you for taking care of us throughout our college experience with you.

Thank you for taking the time out of your life to spend with us and guide us through each and every tournament.

Thank you for bringing us across the country and back.

Thank you for bringing us to national level tournaments.

Thank you for driving us on road trips with a bunch of crazy college students even after leaving us wherever you brought us.

Thank you for putting up with all the horrible stories on the vans.

Thank you for your support.

Most of all, thank you for being our friend.

There are many memories that will stay with us forever.

It is an honor to have you bowl with us at every tournament and to have you as the glue that will always keep us together. Each of us carries a piece of you and we will never forget the way you touched our lives.

You were a great man, Richard Burns, and we will always have in our hearts forever.

Sincerely,
The Western New England College Bowling Team

Over the last year and a half no other coach kept The Westerner as updated about the progress of his team as Coach Burns did about his. This we take as a sign of the pride he had in his work and in the students he cared about. It also explains why this newspaper has printed more sports articles about the bowling team than any other team on campus. Our condolences to those who knew him
The Editors

CLASSIFIEDS

WNEC Update

Attention Club Leaders. Make use of your campus resources! Advertise in *The Westerner*. There is no charge! Just send your information to Student Publications (across from WNEK) or call Jen at 782-1581. Line ads and small display ads are available.

WNEC Update

TONIGHT!
SINGLED OUT
comes to WNEC
be at the Bear's Den @
8:00 sharp!
sponsored by Franklin Hall

Help Wanted

Women between ages of 21- 34 needed to donate eggs. Must be maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Compensation of $3,000 for time, energy and effort of donation. Please call Dr. Angela Figueroa at 1-888-494-4060 for an information packet.

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Local Event

Augusta Savage Gallery will host a reading by Filipina playwright Ermena Vinluan on March 4, at 7pm. Also, a recital of Japanese Folk Dances by Momo Suzuki on March 9, at 7pm.

Local Event

A fundraiser will be held on 3/7 from 4-6 at Wilbraham United Church, 500 Main St. The Interfaith Pilgrimage Fundraiser will be an evening of celebration to support the walkers from The Gambia, W. Africa to Cape Town, S. Africa.

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a celebration in honor of
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We Are Looking For A New Logo

Campus wide logo contest. A prize will be given for the winning logo. You can drop off your picture at the CAB office in the campus center across from the print shop. Please put your Name, Box #, and Phone # on the back of your drawing. Good luck, and thanks a lot.
Drawings are due by March 8th.

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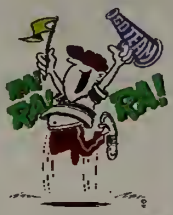

WNEC OLYMPICS

MARCH 3 -5
7PM - 9PM at the AHLC

Basketball	Floor Hockey
Relay Races	Tug-O-War
Hula Hoop	Volleyball

Little People's Weekend

Any son, daughter, relative, or friend between age 3 - 12 is welcome!
Registration fee = $7.00 per person

Friday
- Magic Show at 7:00pm
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Saturday
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- luncheon

Payment due by Tuesday, March 2nd at the Office of Student Activities

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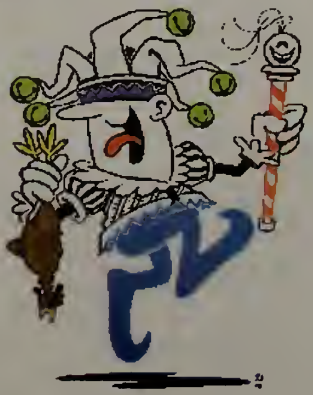

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THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 44/Issue 11 • March 12, 1999

CAMPUS & LOCAL NEWS

In a special election news section, read about your candidates for class president

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Why doing research is a hassle at Western New England College

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LIVING / ARTS

The Chieftains put on an "uabhasach" show at Symphony Hall

p. 8

SPORTS

WNEC Olympics rages through the AHLC for three exciting days of action

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CLASSIFIEDS

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Sophomore, Junior Compete for Senate Presidency

by Weyne Berr
Assistant Editor

When undergraduates return from spring break, they should expect to see many posters, signs, and student political candidates about campus. The window of opportunity for these candidates is small — they will have only one week to campaign for office before elections are held on Tuesday, March 30, in the mall area of the Campus Center.

Perhaps the most important Senate position is the one for student senate president. This year's candidates, junior Ryan Courtemanche and sophomore Kimberly Windish, both hope to fill the office and improve student life on campus — but beyond that general goal, they each have specific plans and agendas. Students should familiarize themselves with both candidates and pay close attention to their campaigns before voting.

* * *

Windish, a sophomore marketing major from Manchester, Conn., has "always been involved in student activities," both in high school and college. Since her arrival at Western New England College, she has been a peer advisor, first year seminar assistant, member of the Marketing Association, the secretary of the sophomore class, the treasurer of Alpha Lambda Delta, and a member of the Student Activities Board to the Board of Trustees.

Windish, who was attracted to WNEC for its student-teacher ratio and "more personal" atmosphere, is also a member of the

See RACE, page 4

Junior Ryan Courtemanche and Sophomore Kimberly Windish are both running for Senate President.

Annual Fund Raiser a Messy Success

Jennifer O'Brien
Layout Editor

It was 12:30 in the afternoon on March 4th, and people were crowding around the Campus Center mall area. Those who were nearby could hear laughter coupled with the sound of *splat*v against the plastic sheets covering the floor.

The Criminal Justice Association was holding its annual fundraiser, "Pie in the Eye." Both students and faculty volunteered to have pies thrown at them to help raise money for the Boys and Girls Club of Springfield.

People had the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to qualify for a chance to "pie" that "certain someone."

Raising money for a good cause, spectators watched pastel-colored Aramark creme pies get lodged up noses, embedded in hair and just plain make a mess.

The volunteers, clad in trash bags and sometimes adorned with shower caps, stood waiting with

See PIES, page 4

Tom Wozniack, Director of Residence Life gets creamed for a good cause

Peroulakis Runs for Junior Class President

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

When Junior Class Presidential Candidate Sophia Peroulakis, from Westfield, Mass., was trying to figure out what college to go to, her decision to come to Western New England College was made without hesitation. She "stepped on the campus, and it just felt right." Without a formal tour, or much thought at all, she admits, her decision was made.

Now Peroulakis is a business major with a concentration in leadership. She feels herself qualified to be the junior class president because of her enthusiasm, experience, and leadership skills.

Sophia Peroulakis

Since beginning college she has been actively involved in the student government, starting her freshman year in Freshman Council. She helped start the WNEC Olympics and hopes to continue improving such events in order to "get our class more involved, more spirited."

She has since then become involved in student government by becoming a student ambassador. She enjoys "being involved," and feels that "class unity and class spirit are important."

Low involvement, as Peroulakis sees it, is the biggest problem on campus. This, she feels, is in part because the information does not always get circulated as well as it should be. This is one of the many problems that she hopes to change if she is elected junior class president.

She would also like to see the college become more involved as part of the community. Since each student helps to pay for events and activities on campus, she would like to see more of the college community benefit from them, she said.

Her campaign, driven by her strong desire to be involved, will primarily involve talking to people. However, she is also planning to use flyers and posters to make herself more visible.

A very sociable person, Peroulakis is unsure of the exact direction her life will take after college, but she is sure that whatever she does will include "work[ing] with people," because she enjoys helping others.

For the time being she is working in the admissions office for the College and conducting tours for the College. When she is not working or studying, she enjoys spending time with her friends, or occasionally she will "curl up with a book" just to unwind.

Peroulakis is running for the office of junior class president because she can see a lot of things that she would like changed, not the least of which is the lack of participation and school spirit that she feels plagues the school.

Since Peroulakis commutes to school, she is aware of the poor communication the College has with its non-residential students, but her involvement with many activities has made her sympathetic to the needs of the resident students as well, she said.

Peroulakis also said that she wants to make a difference in the college community as a whole, as well as the junior class specifically. She hopes to bring the community together with new activities, and improve older ones to help get other people involved.

Senior Candidates Disagree on Issues

Maxcy Hopes to Have Commencement Moved to Civic Center

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer

One of the candidates for president of the senior class is Beth Maxcy, a government major with a minor in history. Currently, Maxcy is a member of Student Senate, the Political Science Association, and Pi Sigma Gamma.

Maxcy was initially attracted to Western New England College because of the small campus, which meant that she could actually get to know her professors.

Maxcy feels she is a good candidate for class president because she has been involved in leadership activities since she was a freshman. As a sophomore, Maxcy was vice president of the Residence Hall Association, and as a junior she was the class representative in Senate. Senior class president, she said, seemed the next logical step in her student political career.

Because of her past leadership experience, Maxcy said she knows what would be expected of her as President of her Class.

If elected, Maxcy plans to work to make an enjoyable senior year for the class of 2000. She wants class activities to be planned by the members of the class, not just Student Senate and Campus Activities Board. She believes students will be more inclined to participate in school activities if they help plan those events. "It's our senior year," Maxcy said. "I just want everyone to get to know each other and have fun."

Beth Maxcy

Maxcy knows there are more serious issue to be dealt with. Because of the increasing number of students graduating, the College has divided this year's afternoon commencement into two ceremonies — one for on-campus undergraduates, and another for off-campus undergraduates and graduate students.

This, according to Maxcy, is the wrong way to solve the problem. If elected, she would do all she could to make sure everyone in the senior class graduates together, not in two separate ceremonies. "I would rather graduate at the Civic Center with all my friends then here with only half," Maxcy said. "I think that's the way most people feel."

Pratt Believes Two Ceremonies a Good Solution

by Wayne Barr
Assistant Editor

Originally from Oxford, Mass., Pratt was vice president of his senior class in high school, where he also participated in other student government activities.

At WNEC Pratt has not held office or run for any Senate position, but he does not feel his lack of experience should be considered a weakness. "I wanted to try something different, and wanted to work in government," he said. "Senior class president is a good position to hold to have an effect on what goes on at WNEC."

Pratt, who came to WNEC for the "friendly feel" of the campus, believes the social aspect of his college experience — working at the information booth, playing basketball with friends, and just getting to know students — would help him as senior class president.

"I listen to other people," he said. "I feel like I'll get the input I need to make the senior class a strong force ... I just talk to a lot of people."

Pratt admits there is more to do than just listen. "The main issue is that the future senior class is not as much as a force as they really could be," he said, citing low junior attendance at this year's Midnight Madness as an example. "I want to turn that around."

Jayme Pratt

To help accomplish that, Pratt said that he would "work to take interest away from class officers and put more emphasis on students themselves ... I've heard from others that events and programs were geared more toward student officers than students."

Pratt plans to campaign positively, since he does not know his opponent, Beth Maxcy. The two of them disagree, however, on the matter of two graduation ceremonies.

See Pratt, next page

Viegas Follows Sister's Footsteps

Monica Viegas, Sophia Peroulakis's opponent, is running for junior class president

by Wayne Barr
Assistant Editor

Monica Viegas likes to be busy and active. A member of the women's softball team, she also enjoys basketball, field hockey, kickboxing — "you name it, I'll play it," she said. This semester, Viegas hopes her energy will be useful as she campaigns for the offices of junior class president.

Viegas, a criminal justice major, was originally studying at the University of Maryland but transferred to Western New England College partly because her sister, Celia Viegas Norcross, told her it was a good school with a good program for her major. Viegas was also attracted to WNEC for its size — a smaller college than the University.

Viegas believes she has some big shoes to fill, since her sister was also president of her own sophomore, junior, and senior class. "I want to be as good as her," said Viegas. "All the good that she did, I want to do — I want to give that out to my peers, so they have a good time."

As a transfer student, this is the first opportunity Viegas has had to run for office. Although she has not had any student government experience in high school or college, she feels she possesses the right qualities to be junior class president.

"I'm an honest, reliable woman," she said. "I like to get involved, and I like doing things for other people. I'd rather concentrate on other people than on myself, because if they're happy, then I'm happy."

Viegas would like to see more activities and functions for her junior class. "Usually people like to go out and party. There are events during the week that people don't go to, don't even know about ... I'd like to make events more attractive," she said.

So far Viegas has not received any criticism for running for office without a lot of political experience. "People have said that it's a pretty cool thing, that I'm brave that I'm not involved in senate and doing this," she said.

PRATT, from previous page

"I think it's a really good idea," said Pratt. "I worked at graduation last year and I watched hundreds of people. They tried to pack people into this place like sardines."

Pratt thinks it a good idea to separate the graduate students from the undergraduates since many graduates left immediately after receiving their diplomas. "It was disrespectful to the undergraduates, and caused a lot of commotion," Pratt said.

Pratt hopes to make sure there is a commencement speaker for next year's senior class. "It's too bad [that there isn't one this year], because I really enjoyed the speaker," he said. "We really should have one — we've had one for years. Why break that tradition now?"

Zawieruszynski, Rokosz Compete for Sophomore Class Presidency

by Josh Shear
Editor

Kelly Rokosz is running for the office of sophomore class president because she "really wants to make a difference," something she believes she can do by "always keeping the best interests of [her] class in mind."

Rokosz is an accounting major who graduated from Monson Jr.-Sr. High in Monson, Mass. She

Kelly Rokosz

hopes to either take over her father's transportation business when she graduates or become a Certified Public Accountant.

Although she was not on Freshman Council, Rokosz believes that her dedication and sense of responsibility, along with her leadership and organizational skills, make her the best candidate for sophomore class president.

In her free time, Rokosz enjoys working out, singing, motor boating and keeping on top of the latest fashion scenes.

Rokosz chose to come to Western New England College because it was far enough away from home that she would have some independence, but close enough that she could go home if she wanted to or needed to.

Aside from wanting to become sophomore class president, Rokosz also hopes to become more involved in the Accounting Club at Western New England College.

She does not see any issues that are very pressing for class yet, but hopes that her class will be able to stay together as a close-knit group.

* * *

Nissa Zawieruszynski is running for Sophomore Class President because she doesn't want her "class to go down."

The Marketing, Communications and Advertising Major from Northbridge, Mass. is also on the cheerleading team at Western New England College and has been involved with the Campus Activities Board.

Zawieruszynski believes that her major qualifications for office are her dedication to her class and her overall ambition.

Although she found out too late about how to get involved in Freshman Council, Zawieruszynski jumped at the opportunity to run for class president, hoping to give her class the opportunity "to have more fun."

Zawieruszynski came to Western New England College because she knew she had friends here and she wouldn't be alone. When she graduates, she hopes to go into public relations.

Nissa Zawieruszynski

Zawieruszynski sees Western New England College as a "tricky" place when it comes to day-to-day activities and politics, but is not dissatisfied with anything she has seen so far.

She does not necessarily intend to change anything if she is elected, she said.

THE WESTERNER

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Jennifer O'Brien
Natalie Pisarcik
Josh Shear

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Windish, Courtemanche Face Off in Senate Race

RACE, from page 1

swim team, though currently out on injury.

Part of the reason Windish is running for Senate president is, quite simply, "to make a difference."

"I feel a lot of people believe that Student Senate doesn't do anything, and I want to get our name out to show that we do make a difference," she said.

Windish shares her ticket with Mia Arrigo, who is running for the office of Senate vice-president. "Both of us are very involved in the school, and both of us are good listeners ... we've worked together for two years now, so we know how to work together," Windish said.

If elected, both students would begin their term as juniors — an unusual but not impossible situation. "I think a lot of people didn't know you could run for senate class president for your junior year," said Windish, who admitted she and Arrigo were "shooting kind of high this year."

In fact, Windish and Arrigo believe their junior status may help them. "People will get to know us and work with us for two years," she said. "And since we're in the middle age group, we're not too far off from the freshman or the seniors ... we can relate to both sides on campus."

Windish had nothing critical to say of her opponent, Courtemanche, and plans to have a campaign free from any "bashing of candidates."

"I've never had a bad experience with Ryan," she said. "The only thing that may give us an advantage is that we'll be juniors. We know a lot of people who aren't on Senate that would possibly have a complaint and not come forward. They might be more comfortable if they knew that senate isn't all just seniors."

If elected, one if the first issues Windish believes she will have to face is the controversy between Resident Life and Public Safety — in particular, the question of complaints being dealt with properly.

"A lot of people have complained that Res. Life and Public Safety are supposed to work together and instead actually throw things on each other," she said. If elected, Windish said that she would probably "have a meeting to have us all sit down — the heads of Res. Life and Public Safety — and develop some sort of process ... perhaps one person in each office will report to the other at the end of the day. That way each end of the spectrum knows what the situation is and how the other wants to resolve it."

* * *

Ryan Courtemanche, a junior from White River Junction, Vermont, has been involved in student politics since high school. "I ran for senior class president and lost to someone who was more popular ... but I still wanted to be a representative," he said. "From there I've just been interested in student government."

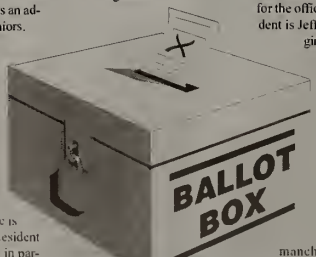
At WNEC Courtemanche has been a member of the Freshman Council and president his class for the last two years.

As such, he would have been a virtual shoo-in for senior class president — but decided he would rather run for the office of Senate president.

"I want to get more into the student political arena," he explained. "President of Senate is not like being the senior class president, where you have to plan all these big events for the class ... my years as sophomore and junior class president have shown me that I kind of want to shy away a little bit from putting on big programs and really running events."

Courtemanche's experience as grievance chair has already put him in the middle of the student political arena. With the encouragement of former Vice President of Academic Affairs Rex Stevens, and with the assistance of Tea Martin and Jessica Steel, Courtemanche drafted a Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities late in 1997.

"It originated because we felt that some students weren't getting a fair shake, in their grades and really in how teachers were treating them," Courtemanche explained.



Since its conception and development, the bill has gotten lost in a quagmire of campus politics, but Courtemanche hopes the faculty senate will take more positive action with it soon.

"It's one of those issues that the faculty know have to happen, know eventually will play out, but I think it's also one of those issues that, if someone's not there touching them with a hot poker, they're going to let it sit in committee, and eventually it will die with me when I leave next year," he said.

By working with the Student Bill of Rights and Responsibilities, and by his other work in student senate, Courtemanche feels he has built up a meaningful rapport with other political constituencies on campus. "My relationship that I've had with a lot of the administrators is a favorable one, so I can speak to them — they know who I am, they know kind of what I'm about and what I've been doing here at WNEC," he said.

Running with Courtemanche for the office of Senate vice president is Jeffrey Kraft, a junior engineering major who has been a resident advisor and a senate member for the last two years.

"I chose him because I felt like he would be able to help the students from the engineering side," said Courtemanche. "Also, Jeff sees some of the real student concerns of the freshman, having been a freshman RA for the past two years ... he sees a different side of WNEC than I see, so he is an obvious pick."

Like Windish, Courtemanche wants to keep his campaign positive and self-focused, but believes he is the more qualified candidate. "Personally, I feel that I have more experience with Senate and how Senate works," he said. "Having been here another year, and being on the executive board of Student Senate, I really have a feel for what Student Senate is all about, and the responsibilities that Student Senate has."

Courtemanche also agrees with Windish that one of the major issues next year's senate president will face is that of Resident Life and Public Safety treating students fairly and consistently.

According to Courtemanche, there have been problems with Resident Life not involving Public Safety with hearing processes, and treating certain students differently than others in matters of dispute.

One part of the problem, Courtemanche believes, is that "the power is put into one person's hands."

"Often times we've found that [Director of Residence Life] Tom Wozniak will call Public Safety and ask for their written report but won't have them come over and actually talk to them, and so they won't get the whole view of the incident," Courtemanche said. "It's really more of a poor structure issue — how the process works in Res. Life."

Until students get more hard facts and specific evidence of injustice, however, change will be difficult, Courtemanche believes. "Hearsay is not going to get you far with administrators," he said.

Courtemanche is also concerned about the safety of the crosswalks. Although he thinks there could be more safety features added, the real approach to reducing accidents is to "educate the student to look both ways before they cross the street and not just walk out, because that's what happens," he said.

The new residence hall, and the fate of Rivers Gym, are also concerns Courtemanche would like to address as Senate president.

"[Current Senate President Sean Boucher] found out that the president and his staff have been meeting about Rivers Gym every week to figure out what to do with it — but students didn't know that," he said. "We need to make sure the lines of communication between students and upper administration are flowing smoothly ... generally, administrators try to be sincere in almost all their actions, and try to do what's in the student's best interests, but I think a lot of times it comes down to 'how much money do we have?'"

One expensive but important student interest that Courtemanche would attempt to address is the need for a theater on campus, which he believes could be used for outside performers, professional theater groups, guest speakers, and "so many different things."

"If [administrators] really feel like they want to start focusing on the holistic student, then a theater is one of those things that can bring that," he said.

Ultimately, Courtemanche hopes to change the attitude of Senate itself. "I'd really like to see senators become more involved in finding out what the students want," he said. "The way it is now, I don't think the senators are really empowered to do much of anything besides go to meetings and vote on budgets ... half the programs we have here students don't go to or aren't interested in, and from what I've heard from some people, they feel that half of the programs we do have are childish, like we're still in high school."

Change, however, must be internal, he added.

"One of my biggest challenges will be getting the senators to be there and want to change, to get them motivated ... but there are ways to do that."

"Pie in the Eye" Proves Fun, Messy

PIE, from page 1

smiles and grimaces to find out who would be the one to do them in.

It was Jason Neal who covered Yvone Bogel in a cotton candy pink pie, and Celia Norcorss's own sister did the same to her.

Chris Gilardi nailed Tom Wozniak with a squishy thud, yelling "this is for Old Farm Road!" after waving $10 in the air, money that friends had donated for the cause.

Dripping with pie creme and trying to whip the substance out of ears and noses, the volunteers had smiles on their faces. According to those who participated, the pies tasted pretty good.

And for those looking to make a fashion statement, many of the guys thought the stuff made excellent hair gel.

An unidentified victim gets a faceful of pie

The Criminal Justice Association raised more money this year than they did last spring, thanks to the help of so many participants.

And who knows, it might be you next year, sticking you face though a wall, covered in creme pies.

Remember, it's for a good cause.

Advice Column

Ask Sandy & Rizzo ...

(Sandy and Rizzo are The Westerner's advice columnists. It may not be good, but it's definitely advice.)

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,

My roommate is a music freak, so when she asked what I thought about vinyl, I thought she meant records. I told her I loved vinyl, and the other day when I came home there was a tight vinyl body suit on my bed. Now I am scared. What should I do?

—Frightened

Really! She went out and bought you a vinyl body suit. Wow, that's incredible, because those things are expensive (don't ask how I know that). Or, maybe she gained some weight and didn't want her suit to go to waste, so she gave it to you. You know, a hand-me-down body suit.

Honestly, though, I don't think it really means anything. However, if it really makes you feel uncomfortable, you should let her know that you were confused by the question. Tell her that you love listening to vinyl records, but are kind of scared of vinyl body suits. You should also ask her what she meant by giving you the body suit, because that's really a weird gift between roommates. Good luck!

—Sandy

I guess, if you want me to be honest in my advice, you first have to tell me where you live. I think I need to investigate this situation for myself. I mean, to give you a true recommendation, I would need to see this body suit ... the color, the quality, the accessories, how it looks on you, etc. I would not be able to give fair judgment unless I actually saw this suit. For example, the suit could be just a cheap plastic wanna-be vinyl suit that she bought at a joke shop just to see your reaction. On the other hand, if this is quality vinyl (and believe me, there is a big difference) then it brings this into an entirely different ballpark. If this is good vinyl, then you know she invested some money hoping to see you in this hot suit. If you are not attracted to her, then tell her she is a crazy nut and laugh it off (then send me the suit box 1234). If you are interested but just nervous, either call me and we can test out the suit first or just put it on and ask her how it looks. If that is what she wanted then I am sure that the vinyl music will play of your little vinyl suit!

**Rizzo

Sandy, you seem cute and innocent and all, but Rizzo, you've got to be HOT. Will you ... marry me?

HEY!

—Sandy

I might not be hot at the moment ... but I am sure you can make me extremly hot. Do you want to elope? Do you have a vinyl body suit?

**Rizzo

Dearest Sandy and Evil Rizzo,

My girlfriend and I have a one year anniversary coming up. I want to make this a really special day for her. Can you give me any advice in planning a memorable evening?

—J.M.

Basically anything you do will make the night special, as long as you do something. Renting a movie and cooking french fries is not special. Buy her a bouquet of her favorite flowers, and take her to her favorite restaurant. Or you could make her a real home-cooked dinner. Make sure that both of you enjoy the evening. What really matters is that you're together and happy. Good luck and have fun.

—Sandy

Do the people of WNEC really have major love problems? If I get asked this question one more time, I am going to scream! I am about to set up a booth in the campus center selling special occasion ideas to retarded love mates. If you can't think of what to do to make an evening special, then you don't even deserve to be in a relationship. Men! I tell ya, freakin' idiots. Women too. Don't you guys get it? Everyday should be special. A bouquet of flowers on a one year anniversary doesn't mean a darn thing, it's practically expected. A bouquet of flowers on a random Monday night is special. Every day is so important to be special and couples are supposed to make it that way.

I would say for a one year anniversary, you need to be alone. Privacy is important for special occasions. Do something completely out of the ordinary ... rent one of those airplanes that carries a message that proclaims your love to her. Go on a mini vacation...drive to Niagara Falls or Montreal just to get away together for the weekend. Okay, money is a problem. Twenty-five bucks can get you a room in a cheap motel.

**Rizzo

If you have a question for Sandy and Rizzo, send it to Box 1234.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

As reported in the January 29, 1999 issue of The Westerner, *plans have been made to cancel this years commencement speaker. Traditionally, the guest speaker has been an important part of the pomp and circumstance of graduating. Time will tell whether future graduating classes have speakers or not.*

... Who Will Miss the Commencement Speaker?

Nobody ever listens to what the speaker says anyway. It bothers me that we are not having a speaker ... but I don't know why.
— Marrissa Jones

We're not having a speaker?! That's stupid!
— Kevin Lester

It's a traditional part of a graduation ceremony, so we really should still have a speaker.
— Brian Turner

Just get the ceremony over with!
— Andrew Wayner

It's disappointing, but it's tough to get a speaker that is diverse for all the majors. Quicker would be better, though — maybe a brief speaker.
— Steve Garete

Try Merging Left When the Sign Tells You To

There's a sign on the northbound side of I-91, shortly after exit 16, that says, "Lane Ends, Merge Left."

It's amazing just how many people ignore the sign.

From the Editor

One day, someone's going to build a highway, and those who ignore signs like "Lane Ends, Merge Left" will find that the right lane does not merge left by itself; if the driver does not take any action, she or he will fall off the end of the lane and plummet into oblivion.

It's amazing that people will settle for hoping that something happens as they want it to, and that it happens on a daily basis.

Take, for instance, the following case:

Springfield Police Officer Donald Brown was on top of things when the call came through: a van had been stolen at gunpoint, and he could see that very van as he rode his beat.

So he pulled the driver over.

Brown had his weapon ready, since he knew the van had been stolen at gunpoint, and the driver was probably the thief, and he probably still had the gun. And there was a good chance he'd be willing to use it.

The driver was one Benjamin Schoolfield. Unarmed, he had borrowed the van from a friend. The call had been a phony. Brown didn't know that.

He fired, and Schoolfield died.

That happened five years ago.

Since then, Springfield police officers and Springfield African-Americans have had strained relations (sparked by more than Schoolfield's death), and a federal agency has probed the Springfield Police Department for racism in its ranks.

None of that is as disturbing, though, as the most recent chapter in the Schoolfield drama.

About two years ago, Schoolfield's family sued the Police Department and Brown for the wrongful death of Schoolfield. A jury awarded the family $2 million.

The city has a law limiting awards in these kinds of cases to $1.1 million, so a judge lowered the award.

Both sides appealed the verdict.

Last week, they agreed on a settlement.

Very few terms of the settlement were revealed, but most notable among those that were made public are that the dollar amount will not be publicly discussed and that the city and Brown are not to be held liable for any wrong-doing or culpability in Schoolfield's death.

That the amount of the settlement will not be disclosed is not as disturbing as the willingness of Schoolfield's family to not hold the entities it once sued responsible for the same act it sued them for.

Had Schoolfield's family accepted the $1.1 million award, it would have received a hearty sum of money as an admission of guilt and an apology.

Instead, the family received some amount of money, presumably more than the $1.1 million but not necessarily so, in exchange for accepting that Brown and the city had no fault in Schoolfield's death.

Basically, the city paid off the family so that the Springfield Police Department would have a clear conscience and a clean slate.

Benjamin Schoolfield's family sold his life out for an undisclosed amount of money.

The family just hoped something would happen, and settled for what did.

Now, no one's "officially" at fault for Schoolfield's death, although the family has a check signed by the city treasurer.

The disturbing thing about the nondisclosure of the dollar amount of the settlement is that it was paid for by the taxpayers of Springfield, either directly or through an insurance company that taxpayers pay a premium to.

Now that Schoolfield is probably turning in his grave while the collective conscience of his family plummets into whatever pit collective consciences tend to plummet into, taxpayers can rest easy, knowing that their money is going toward passivity.

Of course, annoying drivers and Schoolfield's family are not the only people who settle for whatever comes.

Anyone who complains about anything without at least offering alternatives or at best changing it is also settling for mediocrity, and may soon find the end of the lane.

So don't sit back and take it: do something about it, whatever it is.

Josh Shear

Forum at Law School Calls for New Trial for Activist

Since one night in Philadelphia, a controversy has swept the nation centered around one man: Mumia Abu Jamal.

To some he is a hero, to others a killer.

Jamal sits on death row for the alleged shooting of Police Officer Daniel Faulkner. Who is the man behind the media, and why have so many people rallied to his cause?

These questions were debated and answered in a forum held at the WNEC Law School , hosted by panelists Robert Meeropol and Professor John Bracey, chairman of the African American studies department at UMass.

The audience consisted mainly of law students with some undergraduates. Meeropol commenced the discussion with an overview of Mumia's case, and why he became involved in the effort to bring justice for Mumia.

From a young age, Mumia Abu Jamal has been an activist against racial injustice.

He organized a youth chapter of the Black Panthers, and grew to become a journalist whose editorials were critical of racism, especially of the brutality in the Philadelphia Police Department.

Mumia has had an FBI file on him since he was fifteen years old because of a protest he organized for racial justice. The police department was looking for any way to silence this outspoken activist.

Then, on that night in November, Mumia was walking down the street on which Officer Faulkner was shot. Mumia claims that his brother was being beaten by the police, and when the officers saw Mumia they opened fire on him.

Then came the moment upon which the trial is based - Officer Faulkner was shot, and despite the fact that several eye witnesses saw someone fleeing from the scene, Mumia was arrested, charged with murder, and hospitalized with his wounds.

Mumia was brought to a trial that was obviously stacked against him. The Judge, Alfred Sahle, has sentenced more people to death than any other judge in the nation.

He was elected with the support of the Fraternal Order of Police, and was biased toward their concerns.

Mumia, an activist for black concerns, was tried by an all-white jury. Unable to afford a defense, Mumia was denied his constitutional right to defend himself, and then given an incompetent court-appointed attorney who had never had a capital case.

The judge accepted as valid all of the evidence presented by the prosecution, and none of the evidence of the defense.

Judge Sable rejected ballistics evidence that proved Mumia's gun could not have shot the bullet that killed Faulkner. He also rejected several eyewitnesses testimony that someone was fleeing the scene.

At this same time, the Philadelphia Police Department was pressuring witnesses to stay silent or change their stories, including one prostitute who was allowed to continue to ply her trade if she would not bring to court her eyewitness evidence that someone else shot Faulkner.

As the incident occurred in a dangerous neighborhood, many of the witnesses were unsavory characters and so were susceptible to police pressure.

Mumia's brother has not come to the trial for fear of his life. Judge Sable took statements from Mumia's writings out of context to paint him as a violent person, without letting him rebut.

White jurors claimed that Mumia - a large black man with dreadlocks - was "intimidating" them, when he had barely been able to make statements or do anything throughout the whole trial.

At this point, Mumia realized that he was being railroaded into jail as a political prisoner and rose up to demand his right to plead his case — and was charged with contempt of court.

The conclusion of the trial was pre-decided from the start. Mumia was sentenced to death.

Meeropol said, "We would not tolerate taking away someone's driver's license with a trial like this, much less give them Capital Punishment".

Despite the inhuman conditions of death row, Mumia applied his journalistic skills to informing the world of what goes on within our prisons. His book *Live from Death Row* became a bestseller and brought many people into the anti-death penalty movement. It was one of the most poignant books I have ever read, and the reason I attended this program.

Mumia also made several National Public Radio commentaries, which were censored when conservative senators threatened to deny NPR their funding unless they took Mumia off the air.

But the message was already out. Mumia Abu Jamal became a household name, and millions the world over were outraged at the abuses this man had faced. Though the evidence strongly points to Mumia's innocence, his supporters only demand that he have the fair and impartial trial that is every American's right.

Recently Mumia's case was cast back into the public eye when rappers the Beastie Boys and Rage Against the Machine held a concert in St. Louis to raise money for his defense.

The day before the concert Pope John Paul II made statements against the death penalty on Mumia's behalf.

The mayor of St. Louis tried to stop the performance, in violation of the bands' right to free speech, and the media painted them as troublemakers trying to support "cop-killers," and showing obvious bias in their coverage. However, the concert generated support for Mumia's case among the youth and put Mumia Abu Jamal on the public's mind once again.

After Meeropol's summarization, he played a video of a recent ABC 20/20 segment on Jamal. This television program was a perfect example of the media Manufacturing Consent. Under the pretense of investigating "The Facts" they covered only evidence favorable to the prosecution's cause. The show opened with a darkly tinted photo exaggerating Mumia's blackness, and then through selective photo editing, they painted his supporters as only zealots and members of the radical left. The average viewer without background knowledge on the case, however, would probably take ABCNews's version of the story as fact. The media will always exhibit bias, and it is up to the viewer to read between the lines and get the background for the story.

Bracey provided historical background on the case.

A distinguished scholar from the African-American Studies Department at UMass, he told the story of the volatile tensions between the Police and the African Americans in Philadelphia that date back to the 19th century.

The Philadelphia police department has a legacy of brutality with impunity towards the urban black community in the "city of brotherly love" Under Mayor Frank

See MUMIA, next page

Doing Research is a Hassle at WNEC

Oh yes...it's time for one of those fascinating stories about a dilemma that is occurring on campus.

What dilemma is that, you ask? Why, the one that deals with the fun of trying to do research and gather information for projects through the school's resources.

Let's all try to imagine this situation. You need to get some information off the Internet for a very important term paper that is due in a few weeks, and instead of waiting until the last minute to do the research for this paper, you've decided to get an early crack at it.

You go to Churchill and climb the two flights of winding stairs, out of breath, and stroll into the computer center.

You stop and glance to your right and notice a class working on the set of computers there and decide to head to the back wall, where you have had computers that have worked before.

So you sit down at one unoccupied computer and grab the mouse, moving it along the mouse pad but you notice the little white arrow is still up in the right corner.

"What the..." you exclaim, picking up the mouse.

You turn it over and, to your surprise, there isn't a mouse ball in the darn thing. So you place the mouse down and look to your rights, where you notice all the computers are occupied.

You see an empty one to your left and quickly grab your bag and dash to it.

You sit down and gladly find that this mouse actually works and quickly click your way into the Internet to search for information.

You eventually find some important sources that would be great for your paper. So you press the print button and walk up to the printers located in front.

You wait and wait and watch the other students' printed material come out.

You smile to the students who are picking up their printed sheets as you patiently wait for your papers to eventually come out.

"Did I actually press the print button?" you ask yourself.

So you go back to your computer and press the print button again and quickly walk back to the printer.

You wait and wait, and still nothing, nada, zilch. "Is there even paper in the damn printer?" you say, looking at the thing. There is, so why isn't it printing?

"Excuse me," you say to the unhappy person working behind the front desk.

"Yeah?" he says back.

"Is there something wrong with the printer? I've tried to print this thing off the Internet a few times and it's not working."

"Where are you printing from?" he asks you with a confused look.

"The computer that I'm using is along the back wall," you say to him, pointing at the computer at which you're located.

He smiles. "You can't print from those computers," he says.

"What?" you say, confused, for the fact is that you printed from one of them last week.

"I said, you can't print from those computers," he says, a little annoyed.

"Why?" you say, getting kind of upset.

He doesn't respond right away and just gives you this expression that is telling you, "Look lady, I've been asked the same damn question all day! Do you think I really want to answer it again?"

He then just points to the back wall and says, "Can't you see the signs?"

You look at him with a confused look. "What signs?" you feel like saying to this person, but fear the question might throw him over the edge.

So you give him a fake, slow nod of your head, and say, "oh yeah, those signs," and head back

See RESEARCH, page 10

MUMIA, from previous page

Rizzo the department bombed and burned down a community supportive of the radical black MOVE coalition.

Mumia is not the first black activist to be railroaded in Philadelphia by far, but he is the most prominent. His criticism of police brutality singled him out for persecution.

Bracey questioned the police's motives "how much do we gain through keeping blacks down? This does not bring security to the white population, it makes the notion of democracy a lie." He said that some white police have a failure to see African Americans as human beings. Bracey described our justice system as "shuttering young black men into prisons with frightening regularity."

After the panelists had spoken the floor was opened to questions.

Some audience members challenged the defense's facts. Some brought up other controversial contemporary race issues, such as affirmative action. But in the end, many were motivated to work towards justice for Mumia Abu Jamal.

Bracey concluded with these words: "We cannot say we live in a democracy, unless we have justice for all of its citizens."

James Russell

A Little Time and Effort Make Doing Things Worthwhile

Why do people seem so negative in our modern world?

In earlier editorials I have tried to show that this negativity is a result of apathy and a desire to avoid hard work.

Last issue I tried to illuminate the lack of responsibility-taking that our society seems to encourage and reward.

The main fault lies with the fact that we have designed our society to achieve the greatest amount of convenience with the least amount of work.

Do not misinterpret my point here; I don't want to indict the entire modern technological society.

I simply mean that there is something to be said for old-fashioned hard work and inconvenience.

To me, it seems harder for people to achieve truly great enterprises without hard work and frequent failure. Too often some people are content with whatever they receive, so long as it was easy to get.

Anyhow, this societal laziness and apathy is shown time and again in a number of our endeavors.

First, let us examine voting. Do you vote? Do you care? Often times these questions are answered with a "No, not really..."

It can't be that voting is all that hard, hell, you can register at any government office and vote by mail. How much easier can we make it?

How then can we explain voting rates that are less than half those of 100 years ago, when voting was a great deal more inconvenient than it is today?

The answer lies not in reforming the system, but rather in reforming the people.

Second, let's talk about jury duty. I was reminded of this topic while watching a video in a government class about juries and the jury system.

A number of students raised the point that jury duty is a duty and a chance to give something back to the community.

Why then do so many people try to avoid it?

This question is geared towards those older readers among you that gripe and complain when precious hours or days of your time are required to defend the Tree of Liberty from the Ax of Tyranny.

Seriously though folks, is a few hours really all that hard to give to your fellow man?

Sure is inconvenient though...

The point that I'm trying to make in this article is that convenience is not something that we should strive for purely for its own sake.

We must only abdicate our hardships for those things that we know we can do even with the inconvenience. If convenience is used in conjunction with hard work, then we should explore that as an option.

However, if the convenient path leads us to not care about the process, then we should avoid it.

I honestly hope that all of you understand me, I admit that I am rambling a bit.

Essentially my point is that great achievements are often only gotten as a result of hard work.

Without greatness one achieves either mediocrity or failure.

Unfortunately, our society tends to either encourage or reward mediocrity or failure, so we have very little incentive to put in the hard work necessary to succeed.

This mediocrity is partially to blame for the apathy and cynicism that pervades our lives.

I could continue to give case-study examples of how this works, but I feel that my point has been made.

The more you look around and examine our lives, the more you realize that we really don't have to worry about much anymore.

How many of us worry about starving to death?

Or suddenly being struck with a fatal illness without hope of recovery? How many of us worry about our future in a tangible, everyday, life-or-death circumstance?

I can't imagine the number of you saying "Yes" to be all that high. We have become accustomed to security and comfort in

See WORK, page 10

Cupola Seeks Support from Athletic Department

We're not UCONN and we're not UMASS, but WNEC still stands out in the crowd of small school athletics. Therefore, the students who make up the athletic department deserve full recognition for their involvement and their team's season achievements, don't they?

As a *Cupola* staff member, I know first hand that we have been running around in circles with the Athletic Department. Production of our book runs from September to the end of February, therefore giving the plant the exact amount of time needed to make somewhere around 1200 books and get it back to our school before the seniors graduate.

Because of our production deadlines, it is difficult to include professional-looking team photos, so we do what we can to compromise and make the sports section look as good as any other section.

But to our disappointment this year, some parts of the sports section look utterly pathetic. Some team sections look like a coach or team member took the time and effort to recognize the team and its efforts.

Other sections look ... well ... like our staff just threw a picture on a page and threw down the names of last year's and this year's team members ... well guess what, that's exactly what we did because that's all we had to work with.

And on top of that, it's last years team photos (we did compromise that with the athletic department).

Granted, we were informed that spring sports team photos aren't taken until after our last book deadline, but what about write-ups on how the team did last season? It is not the job of the sports editor to do write-ups unless the team has a full page, and none was provided for us or he/she is on a team. But if you think about it, how good can a sports write-up be if a sports editor or other *Cupola* staff member doesn't play for the team that didn't hand us a write-up and we have no information to go off of.

Many dated letters were sent out to the coaches about write-ups and team rosters. Fall and winter sports went pretty well but as for spring sports, that's where I stand my ground on the slowly declining image of this school's athletic department. How can the Athletic Department lecture us on how the book should be to "their" liking but then not help make the spring sports section material available?

How can the *Cupola* staff be expected to put together a spectacular sports section (which was what we wanted) with what we were given?

Three staff members have constantly tried hounding the sports department for pictures, rosters and write-ups — our staff takes no blame in this. Therefore let there be no surprise when the book comes out in May!

Anonymous

Oscar Wilde Show at CityStage Confusing

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer

From March 4th to March 7th, CityStage opened "Wilde About Oscar," a one man show written and performed by Vincent Dowling.

The play is based on the life of Oscar Wilde, a popular 19th century writer. According to Dowling, Wilde was "a brilliant poet, novelist, and playwrite [who was] obsessed with experiencing every human emotion."

Wilde's thirst for life lead to his demise when he was convicted of "gross indecency."

In a storyteller manner, Dowling traced the events of Wilde's life. He accentuated the most significant events of Wilde's life by reciting his masterpieces that reflect his feelings.

For the most part, this was a good show. "Wilde" was well written and very humorous. Dowling did an excellent job demonstrating to the audience what an interesting and emotional person Oscar Wilde was. Even though it was a well-performed play, it was a little confusing.

The writer must have assumed that his audience would be familiar with Wilde's life, since many jokes could only be understood by students of 19th Century Literature. Otherwise, "Wilde About Oscar" was a fairly enjoyable experience.

CityStage, formerly known as Stage West, is located on Columbus Center in downtown Springfield.

In the next few months CityStage will be presenting three musicals: "She Loves Me" from March 16-28, "How I Learned to Drive" from May 4-16, and "All In the Timing" from June 5-20.

CityStage will also be presenting two dance performances: "The Perks Dance Music Theatre" from May 20-23, and "Antigone's Dream" from May 27-30.

Chieftans Put On Great Show for Symphony Hall Patrons

by Jamas Russell
Staff Writer

Uabhasach!

That's Irish Gaelic for "amazing," and that is the only way to describe the Chieftains' concert March 7th at Springfield Symphony Hall.

The Chieftains have been the leading band in Celtic music for 37 years, and have collaborated with other musicians from all over the world, from Mick Jagger to Bonnie Rait. They have just won their sixth Grammy award.

Tickets to the show were offered through Campus Activities, and the WNEC students who went were in for a great performance.

As the audience filed in I saw it consisted of local Irish-Americans, but also people from all cultures who came to hear this great music, which departed early from its roots in Ireland to cover songs from throughout the world.

The Chieftains consist of two fiddle players, a keyboardist, harpist, bodhran (Irish drum) player and frontman Paddy Maloney on Uilleans, a hand-pumped bagpipe.

After thunderous applause at their entrance, the Chieftains opened up with a classic reel, or instrumental dance song, then slowed it down for a choral piece from their new CD Tears of Stone.

They then covered the soundtrack for the television series Long Journey Home, on the Irish immigration, which the Chieftains produced.

During the fastest songs step dancers performed, the tapping of their fast feet setting the beat.

Before intermission there was the surprise appearance of Eileen Ivers, the electric violinist famous for her work with the show Riverdance, who accompanied the band through the show.

Following intermission the Chieftains swung back into action, performing the music of other cultures with a Celtic twist, such as Spanish Flamenco and what may be the only Irish-Japanese song in existence, "Saki in a Jar."

Ivers and the two fiddlers threw the distortion up on their electric violins for an amazing spontaneous fiddle piece.

As is their tradition, the Chieftains open the stage at the end of their show to local Celtic talent, and this was no exception. During the dramatic conclusion appearances were made by local step dancers and the Black Velvet band.

The ending reel and subsequent encore featured amazing solo performances by each of the band members squeezing as much sound out of their fiddles, drums, and pipes as Jimi Hendrix could from a guitar.

As the sold-out crowd let out, people were step dancing out the door - a testament to the band's incredible performance. It was a concert I will never forget.

John Stewart Brings "The Daily Show" to New Lows

by Josh Shear
Editor

After two months, John Stewart has proven that even though changes are being made to Comedy Central's "The Daily Show," the spirit of original host Craig Killborn is still the driving power behind the satirical news show.

When Killborn announced that he would be leaving the show in December of last year, it was no great shock — he had built an enormous cult following and rumors were flying that major networks wanted him to boost their ratings.

Stewart seemed an unlikely choice for Killborn's replacement for a number of reasons.

First, he stands about a foot and a half shorter than Killborn, so the writers would have to begin writing short jokes rather than tall jokes.

It's not that there isn't any humor there, but after two months, daily short jokes are getting tiring, especially for this five-foot, two-inch viewer.

Second, Stewart is an actor, where Killborn was a newsman. Killborn had his start on ESPN, where Stewart has been making movies for several years. He's the first alien in "The Faculty" to have white goo emanating from his face.

Finally, "The Daily Show" is a mock news show, with humor aimed at making adults laugh at the absurdity of what goes on in the world. Stewart's humor seems to be directed more at 13-year old boys, with numerous flatulation jokes and flaky ogling at his female guests.

Where Killborn would make brazen and suggestive comments about supermodels' outfits, Stewart has been spotted wiping drool from his bottom lip.

In retrospect, it was time to end "The Daily Show" when Craig Killborn left, rather than leave it to Stewart, who imitates Killborn's mannerisms but just isn't funny.

Since our last issue, three important Americans have died.

* Justice Harry Blackmun, who wrote the majority opinion in Roe vs. Wade legalizing aborion
* Joe Dimaggio "The Yankee Clipper" baseball hall-of-famer and the first athlete to do a major product endorsement
* Stanley Kubrick, director of movies like "2001: A Space Oddyssey" and Anthony Burgess "The Clockwork Orange"

They will be sadly missed.

summerteethwilco
The biting new album featuring the single "Can't Stand It"

WNEC Olympics Prove Fun for All Involved

By David Weinberg
Sports Editor

The Western New England College Olympics have come and gone once again.

It is that wonderful time of year to celebrate the Spring Sports Kickoff and anticipate warmer weather that will soon be here.

The Olympics were sponsored by the Department of Wellness and Recreation, Sophomore Class, and the Sports Management Association.

The Olympic participants and the cheering spectators enjoyed a variety of activities that were provided.

During the first two nights of the Games, a total of nine teams competed in basketball, floor hockey, or volleyball. On the final night of the Olympics, teams participated in tug-of-war, team relays, and a Hula-Hoop contest.

The first place winner after all the events were completed was the "BEESHARPS," who totaled 25 points, followed by the "OUTCASTS" with 19 points, and a two-way tie for third place was the "III STAFF" and the "BEAR PAC" with 12 points.

After the Olympics were completed, possibly the most anticipated event of the three days was the Spring Sports Spectacular.

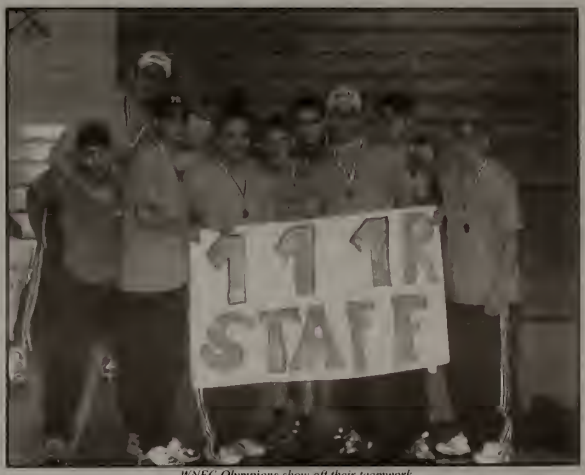
The Sports Spectacular had an entertaining and amusing hypnotist named Dan LaRosa who hypnotized the crowd literally and figuratively with his performance.

The Dance Team performed and people had an opportunity to meet the spring sports athletes.

If students still were not interested in any of this excitement, another incentive for them to come to the Olympics was a chance to win a $500 Airfare Voucher anywhere in the United States.

Freshman Beth Szymanski from Burlington, CT was the lucky student to have the winning numbers picked in the raffle.

Congratulations Beth, and the best of luck to all the spring athletes on their upcoming seasons.



WNEC Olympians show off their teamwork

Athletic Department Provides Overview of Winter Sports

The resurgence of varsity athletics at Western New England College continued during the 1998-99 winter season.

As in the fall campaign, every varsity team improved its record from the previous year, and both the men's and women's basketball teams finished with their first winning seasons in several years.

The men's team, which won just two games a year ago, finished with a 14-11 record for first-year coach Doug Pearson. At one point midway through the year, the Golden Bears ripped off nine consecutive victories.

Four players from this team are poised to reach the 1000-point career mark next season, an impressive feat.

Junior center Ryan Abraham (Newington, CT) came into his own this season and led the team in scoring, averaging 18.3 points per game. He ranked in the top ten nationally in field goal percentage, hitting nearly 65 percent of his baskets.

Sophomore forward Eric Stewart (Highland Falls, NY) improved on his impressive rookie season by averaging 16.7 points per game and leading the team in rebounds at 8.7 boards per contest.

Junior forward Ryan Manning (Albany, NY) had his best year for WNEC, also scoring in double figures at 13.2 points per game.

Finishing just behind Manning was junior guard Tom Keane (Yonkers, NY), averaging 13.1 points per game.

The women's basketball team, under third-year coach John Greene, improved its record to 13-11 this season, its first winning mark since the 1994-95 season.

The winning slate is made all the more impressive considering the Golden Bears roster was comprised of three sophomores and seven freshmen.

Sophomore guard and Co-captain Erin Marino (Westerly, RI) led the team in scoring for the second year in a row, averaging 14 points per game. She also led the team in steals, and was second in rebounding at 6.3 per game.

A big reason for the success of the team this year was due to big years by a pair of freshmen, Joyce Neilson (Salisbury, CT) and Callie Durhrow (Washington, VT).

Neilson finished second in scoring, averaging 12.4 points per

See WINTER, page 10

Men's Basketball Finishes with a Winning Season

by Tom Emberley
Contributing Writer

Over the course of the last 12 months, the Western New England College men's basketball team has gone from being a perennial doormat to an opponent that every team who has the Golden Bears on the schedule fears.

Last year was a nightmare every time WNEC stepped on the court, it seemed.

Game after game, just when it seemed like things couldn't get worse for former head coach Brett Bishop's squad, it would get worse in terms of getting outplayed and outscored.

The Golden Bears finished up last year 2-23, going winless in their conference in their final year in the Constitution Athletic Conference.

A few short weeks later, Bishop resigned from his post.

Fast forward to this past fall.

New Athletic Director Michael Theulin, who coached Springfield College's men's basketball team to its finest season ever the year before, hires his former assistant coach, Doug Pearson, to take over the reins of the Golden Bears this year.

Bringing back all but one contributing player from last year's 2-23 team (Ken Payette transferred to Rhode Island College), this same group of personnel seemed to pick up right where it left off last season: in the loss column.

After two straight losses in Wheaton College's Invitational tournament by a combined score of 11 points, WNEC would lose its next game to eventual NEWMAC Conference Champion Clark University 62-53.

Immediately following the team's first two wins of the year at Fitchburg State and against Westfield State, it looked as though the Golden Bears' losing ways would resume, taking double-digit beatings at both Amherst College and the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

From there, however, the Blue and Gold would go on to win nine straight games for the first time in a while, beating such opponents along the way as Becker and Albertus Magnus, and avenging an earlier loss to Norwich.

"All of our losses were close to start the year, minus the Amherst game (105-69)," said Junior reserve forward Nels Larson. "Most of the games were 'winnable' games in Coach Pearson's mind. And the more we started to win, the more confidence we got."

The streak ended on February 6, when the Golden Bears lost a heartbreaker in overtime to Worcester Polytech, 81-75.

From that point on, WNEC would close out the year, winning only three of its remaining eight games on the year. But once again, the losses were all by less than ten points.

"After (the WPI) game, we started to play better opponents, such as Springfield College and Coast Guard. The games got more difficult due to the scheduling aspect, for the most part," Larson added.

He continued, "All of those losses at the end were in games that we should have won, but sometimes, you can't win them all."

To sum up, WNEC went 14-11 on the year, playing this season as a non-conference team. Ninety-one point seven per cent of this year's scoring will remain next season, as the only graduating senior is guard forward Mike Carbonneau of Weymouth, MA (6.4 points per game, 42.9% on three-point field goals).

Further, the team will join the Great Northeast Atlantic Conference next year, competing against the likes of Emerson College, Daniel Webster College, Suffolk University — many of the same teams that were on the Golden

See BASKETBALL, page 10

BASKETBALL, from page 9

Bears' schedule this past season.

When asked about next season's prospects, Larson commented, "Barring any new recruits we get next winter, our 'Big Four' (juniors Ryan Abraham, Ryan Manning and Tom Keane, as well as sophomore Eric Stewart) will be the major factors once again. They were our four top scorers (combining for 61.3 of the team's 77.4 points per game).

"(Sophomore point guard Rob) Nieves greatly improved as the year went along, so we bring back our starting five. We'll probably expect more from them next year because they've had another year of playing experience with each other."

Others who can be expected to carry part of the load next year are Larson, junior Kevin McKee (a forward with great inside presence), freshmen Kyle Rhude and Mike Crompton (who both saw limited action this year), junior Cory Debbold (who canned four of his ten three-point shots), and sophomore point guard Tim Stack, an excellent defender who also had a 37-24 assist to turnover ratio.

"We played a great deal of the teams from the GNAC this past year, and did fairly well against them," commented Larson when asked about competing in a conference next year.

"We have a great shot at competing considering the personnel we get back. And if we can salvage the conference championship, we get an automatic bid to the NCAA (Division Three) Tournament."

And for any WNEC fan with even the littlest bit of knowledge of the basketball program here, you know that the words NCAA and WNEC would never have been used in the same sentence just 12 months ago.

RESEARCH, from page 7

to your computer softly saying, "those signs," over and over again as you look for the mysterious "signs."

Eventually you look up and notice a piece of paper blowing in the breeze from the air conditioner (which is another point — why is the air conditioner on in this place in the dead of winter?).

After you finally get a good glance at the twisting and turning paper, you notice it reads, "No printing from these computers."

"Is this for real?" you ask yourself, looking around the room. There is a class to your right and the computers to your left never seem to work.

You feel like bursting with laughter, but instead you grab your bag and make your way down to the infamous Writing Center after a 45-minute delay.

You find a computer there, and once again you make your way onto the Internet, finding information. You press the print button and feel a sense of relief when you hear the printer warming up to print.

You quickly get up and walk to the printer and to your surprise you notice a big black line down the side of the paper. "Are you serious?" you say out loud, not caring if anyone hears you.

Once again, you grab your bag and head over to the other side of the Writing Center in one final hope that you can find at least one printer on this campus that works. You once again find the information that you need, and by this time you are sick of it.

At first you hesitate to press the print button — what will you do if it doesn't work?

"I don't care anymore, this paper isn't due for a few weeks," you tell yourself, but you press the print button anyway, and hear the printer warming up. Once again you stand at the printer waiting for what you hope is the information you want.

A piece of paper slowly comes out and it's the info that you have been trying to print for the past hour!

Now you patiently wait for the second page, but a blank piece of paper slowly comes out of the printer. Your sense of relief is quickly drained as you stare at the blank piece of paper.

But then you noticed your second page has come out, then another blank piece of paper, etc.

And after around an hour delay you are finally able to start your research. I don't know about your sanity (if you still have any), but at least you've found a working printer...well, sort of working.

There you have it, the fun and joy of trying to do research here on campus.

Writing and developing a research paper is hard enough as it is, but finding the information can be a strenuous adventure all on its own, especially when the items needed to do the research are not working.

I'm not asking for brand new systems and crap like that, I'm just asking for ones that work, systems that print, and systems that allow for me to do my research and maybe even let me type it up.

Is there a reason why those back wall computers in Churchill do not print?

Is there a reason why there aren't any Word programs on the computers in Churchill?

And is there a reason why students pay x amount of money to come here and there can't be a single decent printer that works?

It would be nice if someone would answer these questions, before students decide the hell with their papers; they can't even get the info they need and can't even type their papers, so why bother?

Happy researching!

Natalia Pisarcik

Winter Sports Teams Show Improvements from Last Year

WINTER, from page 9

game. She led the team in assists and was second in steals.

She and Marino made an excellent backcourt pair that constantly looked to set the other up with pinpoint passes.

Durbrow set a school record for field goal percentage, hitting 51 percent of her shots while averaging 10.1 points per game.

Freshman Holly Coleman (Southington, CT) also had a big year, proving to be an excellent three-point shooter and averaging nearly eight points per game.

Sophomore co-captain Sarah Cote (Agawam, MA) led the team in rebounding for the second year in a row, averaging 6.8 per game.

The ice hockey team finished with a 9-13-1 record for coach Mike Badger, earning two more wins than it had a year ago.

Four of the 13 losses were by one or two goals, and the lone tie on the slate came with less than one minute remaining in regulation.

Junior Jason Lacroix (Barre, VT) led the team in scoring for the second year in a row with 11 goals and 21 assists.

Sophomore Dave McKenna (Bayonne, NJ) and junior Jeff Gilbert (Manchester, NH) tied for second with 30 points apiece. They also tied for the team lead in power play goals with five each.

Junior Bryan Berriault (E. Wareham, MA) came on strong at the end of the season and finished with 17 goals and seven assists, tying for the team lead in goals.

Junior Gary Whittier (Belchertown, MA) was the cornerstone of the WNEC defense. He played a solid defensive season, while contributing 18 points on offense, including four power play goals.

Senior goalie Corey Tomlinson (Ludlow, MA) led a trio of goalies that all had three victories. He finished with the best save percentage for the Golden Bears at 87 percent while compiling a 3-3 record between the pipes.

The wrestling team, under legendary head coach Bob Skelton, finished with 20 dual-meet victories, and placed seventh in the Division II New England Championships.

Senior John Kanavich (Framingham, MA) finished second in the New England's at 133 pounds and qualified to compete in the NCAA Division III National Championships.

For the second consecutive year, WNEC won the academic award at New England's for having the team with the highest total grade point average. The Golden bears bested all teams with an average GPA of 3.07.

The men's volleyball season runs through the first week of April, but currently the Golden Bears have an 8-10 overall record and a 7-6 mark in the Northeast Collegiate Volleyball Association.

WNEC, coached for the second year by Andrew Aufiero, stands in first place in the New England Division.

Taking The Time to Do Things Right is Best

WORK, from page 7

our lives, and these are good things.

However, we must be careful not to become careless about our lives.

I recall a speech by President John F. Kennedy about his plans for the 1960s in which he stated that "we resolve to do these things not because they are easy, but because they are hard."

That statement embodies the concept of what this rambling diatribe has attempted to encompass.

If given the choice between the easy path to mediocrity and the arduous path to success, I sincerely hope that most of us would choose the latter.

I can't say for sure that I would, but I would like to think that I would be able to. I read somewhere that "The right way is always simple; and the simple way is always hard."

Perhaps if we applied that principle to more of our endeavors we would be a happier people.

Craig Nakashian

Want to write for The Westerner?

Leave your name, [illegible] address in Westerner@hotmail.com

Participants of the WNEC Olympics show off their medals

CLASSIFIEDS

WNEC Update

Attention Club Leaders. Make use of your campus resources! Advertise in *The Westerner*. There is no charge! Just send your information to Student Publications (across from WNEK) or call Jen at 782-1581. Line ads and small display ads are available.

WNEC Update

Tuesday, March 23rd - *Women in Athletics - Do they have to be Jocks?* - 12:30pm, Freedman Room, Campus Center. Dr. Walker, Asst. Professor of Business

WNEC Update

HOUSING APPLICATIONS FOR 99-00 ARE AVAILABLE

Current residents (fr, soph, jr) are getting packets through campus mail. Commuters and non-graduating seniors should report to the Residence Life Office in the Campus Center to pick up application materials. Applications should be returned the week of March 29 - April 2 at Student Administrative Services. A $100 deposit is required to submit an application.

Are you ready to accept the challenge of your life?

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For more information - contact Major Adams at 413-782-1332

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WNEC Update

Wednesday, March 24th - *Exposure Musical Revues presents...Musical Ladies* - 4:30pm Bear's Den, Campus Center. Saluted are Dottie Fields, Billie Holiday, Barbara Streisand, Ethyl Merman, Judy Garland, and girl groups from the 50's to the present.

WNEC Update

Monday, March 29th - *The Soulful Sounds of Jazz* - 4:30pm, Bear's Den, Campus Center. Featuring Jazz Singer, *Montenia!*

Reserve This Space
Call x1580

Help Wanted

Women between ages of 21- 34 needed to donate eggs. Must be maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Compensation of $3,000 for time, energy and effort of donation. Please call Dr. Angela Figueroa at 1-888-494-4060 for an information packet.

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Official Outing Club water bottles are now on sale for only $1.00 each. Call Ryan at 739-7905 or leave orders in the club mail box.

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Applications are due in Student Activities by Friday, March 26th

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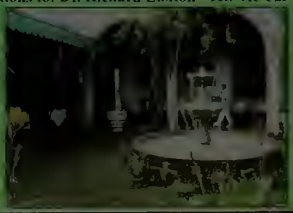

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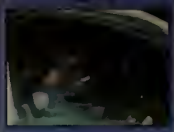


p. 2

ASK ANDY & DIEGO

REPORTED

Stagelem Players Present

Remote Kontrol

Students, Faculty Receive Awards at Ceremony

by Natalia Pisarcik
Staff Writer

On the beautiful Sunday afternoon of May 2nd, students, faculty, administrators, and family members gathered in the Alumni Healthful Living Center for the third annual Recognition Ceremony. It was hard not to want to stay out in the warm spring sun and study, but it was time to honor students and faculty for academic excellence and achievements.

Inside the AHLC a crowd chatted with one another before the ceremony, until the precipitants, faculty and staff were whisked away to the aerobics room. This indicated that it was time for the audience to make its way towards the gymnasium, which was set up with a stage, seating for hundreds, and some interesting looking plants.

As the audience waited for the ceremony to begin, elegant music filled the air from an organist near the stage. After awhile, it almost felt as if you were in *Madam Butterfly*. Then the organist broke out into "Pomp and Circumstance." After the faculty and students proceeded in and took their seats, Caprio opened the ceremony with a speech. He discussed the future of the school and how every year we must honor students, faculty, and academics. He congratulated the nominated stu-

See AWARDS, page 5

Senior Tim St. James accepts the Graduate of the Year Award from Dr. Caprio and Maureen Keizer

Water Leak Shuts Down Publications Office

by Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

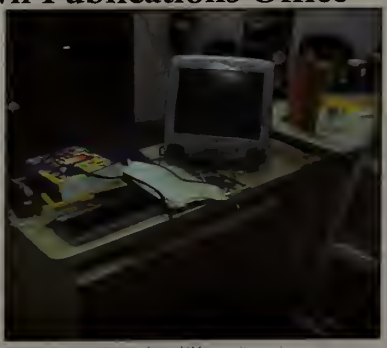
One minute, the semester's penultimate issue of *The Westerner* was glowing on the layout screen; the next minute, it was obliterated by a foul-smelling cascade of water that fell upon the office equipment. Computers, disks, a printer, and a scanner were rendered inoperable, and the newspaper was temporarily shut down to cope with the situation. The issue was cancelled.

Facilities Manager Michael Dunkin, who assumed his position just a couple of months ago, added another emergency item to the backlogged service requests his office has been inundated with since before his takeover.

Dunkin said that routine maintenance was being conducted in the food service area when the pipe burst. Using a pulsating high-pressure water snake, the maintenance workers were trying to effectively clean out of the pipes any "material" that might have built up over time. Due to a structural weakness in one of the pipes, the water from the snake shot through the wall of the pipe and began flooding the office.

Dunkin outlined his approach to making sure that this sort of thing does not happened again. While the structural state of the Campus Center is very good despite a couple of leaks here and there – according to Dunkin, routine maintenance must be done in a timely manner to avoid

See LEAK, page 3



A water-logged iMac awaits repair

A Night in the Life of Public Safety Officers

by Wayne Barr
Editor

10:53pm—Shift Change

Sergeant Michael Purcell wearily rubs his eyes with the back of his hand as he walks into the Public Safety Office, seven minutes early for his eight-hour night shift. Dressed in jeans and a sweater, his thin, brown hair tousled from the motorcycle helmet he has just been wearing, he looks like he'd rather he home, sleeping. With a tired smile he listens to the dispatcher's report: three unregistered kegs and a thirty-pack confiscated from two Gateway apartments, and hundreds of students now looking for a place to unwind on the warmest Saturday night of the semester.

"It's the last chance to party before exams," says Officer Shane Daly, who is assigned to bike patrol for the night. He adjusts his helmet straps and riding glasses, and grins. "It's the last big weekend."

Once Purcell has reviewed the daily log and made shift assignments, he changes into his uniform. He is still wiping the sleep from his eyes as he emerges from the men's locker room. Two female students have come to file a harassment complaint against a male student, and as Purcell takes their report, a pair of tudent patrol officers report to the dispatch desk.

"Area secure," one reports.

Outside, a dull, monotonous beat echoes from Franklin Hall — a medley of stereos competing for volume. Empty cardboard boxes lie upturned in the grass between the dorms — Michelob, Budweiser, Coors Light. Clusters of students wander in and out of the quad, laughing, comparing destinations. For the moment, the social scene at Western New England College is kinetic, vivid, youthful. If the college community is a microcosm of society, then tonight it is a society with few constraints. Family, faculty, and administration are miles away.

11:30pm—First Call

After Purcell files the students' harassment report, he settles into cruiser eight — a plush Ford Crown Victoria equipped with a camera and Watchman monitor, rows of buttons for strobe lights and sirens, compartments for flashlights and parking tickets — and a car radio which Purcell immediately tunes to 93.7, a 70's station. Van Morrison's "Wild Night" hums quietly, if portentously, from the speakers.

One minute later Purcell receives a CFS ("call for service") over the cruiser's CB radio: a fight at one of the Gateway apartments. He flicks on the cruiser's flashing lights, backs out of the Public Safety parking lot, and drives across Wilbraham Road — quickly, but not too quickly. Less than thirty seconds later he pulls up at the rear entrance of the combatants' apartment. Groups of students huddle together, some shielding their cups, some just watching. One student points the way.

"They're out in front," she says.

The fight, it turns out, is a misunderstanding. "We were fighting like brothers," drawls one of the students from behind his graffiti-scrawled apartment door, alcohol on his breath. "I would never hurt this guy."

"Yeah!" echoes his roommate.

Minutes later, outside the apartment, Officer Scott Cooley and Sergeant Purcell listen as Daly, the first officer at the scene, tells how one of the students initially tried to push him out of the apartment. "He pushed me away to try to get the door closed, and then he sat down and said 'I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I didn't realize ...'" Daly says with a grin, more amused than upset by the incident. "We're expected to bounce back from certain things," he explains. "Intentional violence is the next level."

Back in the cruiser, Purcell elaborates on the use of force in officer-student conflicts. "There's times, like what Officer Daly had here, where there's liquor involved and intoxication," he says as "Lay Down Sally" twangs over the radio. "And there's times when the person's unruly and you have to deal with them in a different way. We have to take control of the situation to provide safety to that person and safety to everyone else, besides that officer."

As he talks, a female student in a red shirt and white skirt waves to him; other groups of students call out or cheer as he drives by, circling the complex. "Hello," Purcell calls to a couple walking along the sidewalk.

"For the most part, students are good," he says. "They listen and understand. Many of the problems involve people from off campus."

A law enforcement officer since 1984, Purcell worked in different police departments until he came to WNEC ten years ago. He started as an officer and was promoted to sergeant in 1991. There are fewer crimes at the College than in the municipalities he's served, but they are the same sorts of crimes: theft, fighting, sexual assault, public urination, peeping toms. A trained EMT, he also answers medical emergencies, and has responded to some of the accidents in the crosswalks.

Sergeant Michael Purcell tickets a car in a quieter moment

"The person usually gets thrown about a hundred feet," he says. "It isn't nice."

12:28am—All-Nighters

After circling Gateway Village, Purcell crosses the street to patrol the main campus. He drives the cruiser into forgotten cul-de-sacs, shines its highbeams into dark alcoves and hiding places, and investigates the cars in the parking lots. There are a dozen or so parked around Sleith Hall, where engineering students pull all-nighters on semester-long projects.

The night shift can be rough, especially since the sergeants rotate on four-month schedules. Purcell only has one week left before he switches to an afternoon shift, but since February he has been struggling to adjust to the circadian disruption of night work.

"It's abnormal to be awake for these hours," he flatly states.

Patrolling at night may be important work, but it is not always exciting — especially for a former attack helicopter crew chief and Harley aficionado. Purcell joined the army after high school, and was a trained pilot at 17. He currently works part-time as a flight instructor at Northampton Airport.

Driving to the scene of a crime with strobe lights flashing and siren wailing does not generate the same level of excitement as flying a plane or riding a Harley, though: for Purcell, being a police officer is more about helping people than it is about the rush of adrenaline.

"This job is adventurous too, and challenging at times ... but in police work you have to be a lot of everything," he explains. "You have to be a counsiler, a mediator, a medic, a law enforcement officer ... a lot of things. It's many jobs altogether. There are times when you have to make a decision right away, and it has to be the right decision. The officer has to use good judgment."

1:00am—The Mory's Lull

After securing some windows and an open gate at the new residence hall construction site, Purcell drives back to the Gateway apartments. The crowds of students have dissipated, and for now the area is relatively quiet. Officer Daly, still on bike patrol, is talking to a group of female students who "borrowed" some tires to rig a trap for some fellow residents. One male student, evidently in charge of the tires and concerned for their safe return, approaches Purcell's cruiser.

"We've got to bring those tires back tomorrow," he says.

"They're not going to go far with the tires," Purcell assures him.

The student is satisfied. "All right," he says, trotting back to his apartment.

"Have a good night!" Purcell calls, chuckling. This sort of mischief seems to amuse him — the mischief of slightly inebriated college students engaged in harmless high jinks, relishing the warm spring night and the exuberance of youth.

Once the tire escapade is resolved, a quiet lull settles over the area. Daly pedals over to Purcell's cruiser and asks for the Yankee score. The two officers talk sparsely though the vehicle's win-

See SAFETY, page 4

Food Services Overdue for Health Inspection

by Eric Johnson
Staff Writer

Massachusetts law requires any eating establishment to be inspected by the health department once a year, but no one can say for sure when Western New England College's Food Services was last inspected, because both Food Services and the Springfield Health Department have lost the report of the inspection.

"I know it's been a while," said Gail, an inspector with the Springfield Health Department. "I think it's been two, maybe three years."

In a formal inspection, someone from the Springfield Health Department goes to the site and uses a 52-item checklist to see if the establishment meets the requirements. According to Steve Stathis, from the Springfield Health Department, WNEC scored well at the time of the last inspection.

Gail did remember that "there were . . . minor infractions," but nothing that was serious.

Rob Wierdo, Director of Food Services at WNEC, said that he and his employees do everything they can to make sure that the dining area and the preparation area are clean and safe.

Although the people who prepare the food are not required to wear gloves, Food Services does "encourage people to wash their hands."

"Just having gloves on doesn't insure they are clean," but merely provides the perception of cleanliness, said Wierdo. Gloves are provided for those who wish to use them, but neither the Health Department nor Food Services requires their use.

A typical health inspection will cover topics such as the temperature of food, whether it is cooked completely or chilled properly. Inspectors also check the cleanliness of the uniforms and whether hair is restrained.

However, the laws concerning proper hair restraint are also vague. "Hair must be effectively restrained," Gail said — but that is a judgment call for the inspector to make.

People have always complained about the food in a cafeteria setting — it is only normal. The complaints range from precooked food, just sitting out under the heat lamps, to more important infractions, like a bug in the salad. But typically the complaints are not severe.

How does WNEC's dining room size up when it comes to the people eating there? Student Joshua J. Ackley commented that the food was "not that great." He said he has been served poorly cooked omelets, brown lettuce, and has found an occasional hair in the food. He added that he was once served under-cooked chicken.

This can be a dangerous thing, since under-cooked chicken can contain salmonella or cause food poisoning. However, there have not been any reported cases of food poisoning from meals served by food services.

The Health Department said it has not been to inspect WNEC because it is understaffed. But both Steve Stathis and Gail ask that anyone who has a complaint about any restaurant, on campus or off, call the Health Department in his or her area. Although the call can be placed anonymously, they would prefer to have a name so they can reply with the results. The number for the Springfield Health Department is 787-6740.

Weak Pipes Burst in Campus Center

LEAK, from page 1

serious ruptures and breakdowns.

Dunkin prefers to be "proactive rather than reactive" when it comes to building upkeep. He said it is better to find a small problem and fix it before it becomes a large problem that requires expensive and time-consuming repairs.

Since the ruptured pipe above the Student Publications Office has been replaced, Dunkin has taken steps to prevent a reoccurrence. First, the section of pipe that was destroyed was replaced.

Dunkin then sent plumbers to check "every inch of every line" to detect any future problems. As a result of the search, three small sections of unrelated lines were replaced, and another section is slated for replacement this summer.

In response to the situation in the Publications Office, Dunkin has followed a standard emergency operating procedure. The first step is to determine the nature of the problem. Once this is done, the appropriate crew is immediately dispatched to contain and repair the problem. The situation is then assessed to determine the need for any additional action.

Dunkin said that no one on his team quits working until the situation is under control and the problem is solved.

The accident in the Publications Office prompted an inquiry concerning other buildings on campus with possible maintenance problems. Dunkin is unaware of any serious concerns in other buildings at the College. To his knowledge, every other building is well-maintained and essentially sound.

Dunkin also said that he does not envision any problems with the new residence hall that is being built, despite its rapidly approaching deadline.

A worker checks for problems

Students Stuff Faces at Pizza Eating Contest

Turnout Not as Good as Expected

by Jennifer O'Brien
Layout Editor

On April 14, a few hungry people gathered in Dining Room B with the intention of stuffing their faces and their stomachs.

With pizzas donated from the manager and owner of Domino's on Boston Road, contestants in teams of two raced to see who could devour one large pizza each in the least amount of time.

Returning Champions Joe DiMambro and Tom Marino took first place with a time of nine minutes and three seconds. Their prize for winning – full stomachs and $50 gift certificates to Domino's.

Sponsored by the Criminal Justice Society, the purpose of the Pizza Eating Contest is to help raise money for Shriners Hospital. Contestants paid a $5 entry fee which is first put toward the cost of the prizes and then toward the charity.

But this year, due to the lack of interest and support, the CJ Society was barely able to break even to cover the cost of the gift certificates.

Even though this is an annual event, the lack of participation is frustrating. The contest was originally scheduled to be held on February 24th, but had to be postponed due to the lack of people willing to take part.

You can expect the Pizza Eating Contest to continue as an annual event, but only with the support and participation of the students on campus.

Tom Marino and Joe DiMambro chow down to win the contest

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Public Safety Patrols Campus on Warm Saturday Night

SAFETY, from page 2

dow, exchanging news about the Patriots deal and anecdotes about student behavior. After the confiscation of unregistered kegs and the breaking up of some of the more reckless parties, many students have left the campus. Some go to bars, some to off-campus parties.

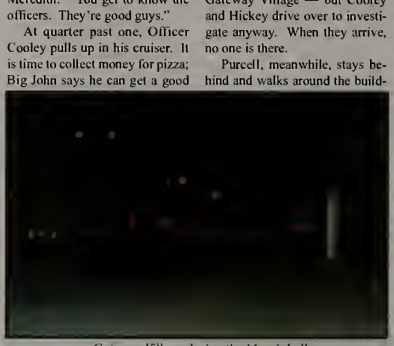
"It's the sign of a job well done," quips Daly, rocking his Cannondale mountain bike back and forth beneath him. The police bikes are stealthy, quiet, lightweight, state-of-the-art, and they make the campus more accessible to the officers riding them.

Meanwhile, nearby Student Patrollers John Meredith and Francis Hickey, working the 10:00pm to 2:00am shift, take a break themselves. An important student component of the department, they are to observe and report any criminal intent or safety concerns, but not to interfere directly with difficult situations.

"People think that we rat out all the parties," says Hickey, who is the supervisor of the Student Patrol. "But we just help keep an eye out for the rowdy cases."

"It's fun," adds "Big John" Meredith. "You get to know the officers. They're good guys."

At quarter past one, Officer Cooley pulls up in his cruiser. It is time to collect money for pizza; Big John says he can get a good deal at Domino's. Once everyone has contributed to the pizza fund, Cooley drives off to Mory's Pub to check out the bar scene.



Gateway Village during the Mory's Lull

Purcell smiles. "At two o'clock we'll get to watch the bar crowd come back," he says.

2:07am—Pizza and Pranks

Before returning to the public safety office for lunch, Purcell makes another sweep of the campus, ticketing illegally parked cars, stopping students who are behaving suspiciously. As he drives, various parts of the campus landscape evoke different memories from his career.

"I once saw a deer here, on a morning like this, years ago," he says while negotiating the cruiser along the dusty dirt roads behind the Alumni Healthful Living Center. Later, driving by the Plymouth Residence Complex, he checks for students between and beneath the cars. "Sometimes they pass out there after getting back from the bars," he says. "Last week we found a student passed out in the tundra, severely intoxicated."

Except for a student who has stolen a Sunoco gas station poster, the night remains free from activity, and Purcell finally returns to the Public Safety Office. He walks back to the kitchen, where a domestic handwritten note is taped over the sink: "Each public safety officer please do his or her own dishes." Back in the reception area, Purcell drinks a cup of water from his Harley-Davidson mug and chats with Officers Daly, Cooley, and Terri Moccio, who is this shift's dispatcher. At 2:07 the phone rings. Moccio answers it.

"Public safety, your call is being recorded," she says.

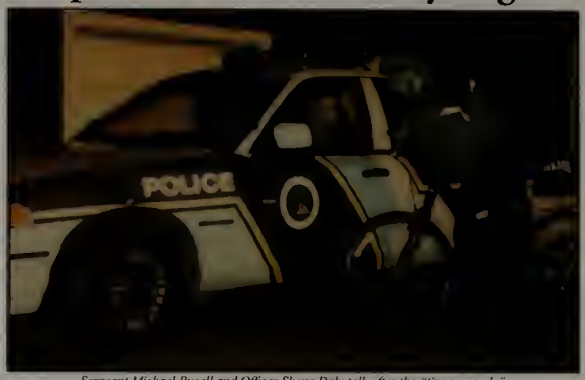
"I need help! Help!" a voice cries.

A digital readout on the phone tells the officers that the call is from one of the Gateway emergency call boxes. It is probably a prank call — a popular trick in Gateway Village — but Cooley and Hickey drive over to investigate anyway. When they arrive, no one is there.

Purcell, meanwhile, stays behind and walks around the building. The walls of the sergeants' office is covered with awards, certificates, photographs, and newspaper clippings. In one photograph a young Purcell smiles from the cockpit of a Cobra Gunship. A few feet away a Harley-Davidson clock ticks on the wall.

"I like people to see this room," Purcell says. "This isn't the only thing I do. I wasn't born in this uniform."

Still, public safety officers are proud of their work on campus — you can see it in their faces as they talk about their state certification or their latest law-enforcement technology. Many of them take advantage of their employment status to enroll in degree programs — Daly, who at 28 looks hardly more than 18, takes classes at the law school, balancing the roles of officer, student, husband, and father.



Sergeant Michael Purcell and Officer Shane Daly talk after the "fire escapade"

Purcell strolls from the office to the confiscation room, where bags of marijuana, bottles of alcohol, funnels, kegs, drug paraphernalia, and revoked license plates are locked away. There is drug activity at the College, too, but partying WNEC students generally prefer beer, and lots of it — the confiscated kegs and bottles spill over into the public safety garage, where Purcell's motorcycle is propped up on its kickstand.

After twenty minutes it's time to head back out. The night air is cooler now, but that doesn't prevent a group of students from playing a vigorous game of basketball in the courts outside Franklin. A shot bounces off the rim of the basket as Purcell checks his watch.

"2:30. Let's see what Gateway looks like," he says.

As predicted, the bars have emptied out, but except for a few groups of returning students roving the lawns, there is little to see. Couples hold hands, kiss, and disappear inside. Minutes later Officer Cooley pulls up beside Purcell, and the two compare notes.

"It's quiet," says Cooley. "It's kind of spooky, actually."

3:04—"Pissed Off"

After ticketing a few more cars and staking out the emergency call boxes for potential pranksters, the cackle of the CB radio interrupts a song by The Rolling Stones: public urination in one of the residence halls. Officer Cooley answers the call, and Purcell arrives minutes later. For perhaps the first time this shift, the officers' job resembles an episode of *Cops*, and although concerned for the welfare of the students, they seem almost relieved to break up the monotony.

Inside the hall, the bleary-eyed complainant explains what happened to the officers: "My girlfriend and I are watching TV, and all of the sudden I hear this tricking, and I'm like, what the hell is that — so I open the door, and this kid zips himself up!" A small puddle of urine stains the carpet at the doorjamb. "I'm wicked pissed!" the student adds, unaware of his pun.

The RA meets Cooley and Purcell outside the offender's apartment. The complainant identifies the student and retires to his room.

The offender's apartment is a mess. Shot glasses line the coffee table; empty beer cans and potato chip bags creep from beneath the bed; a carpet of pillows, pants, shirts, and socks conceals the floor. An empty bottle of Southern Comfort lies near an empty pizza box and bottle of Tabasco sauce. On the wall a poster declares: "Do Not Disturb: Blood Alcohol Experiment in Progress." The students are underage.

"Where'd you get the beer?" Purcell asks the offender's roommate.

"What do you mean?"

"Where'd you get the beer?" Purcell patiently repeats.

"The beer? Um, from down in Gateway."

Later, Purcell and Cooley take turns questioning the offending student, who denies any wrongdoing. Neither officer gets upset or vicious; though they are firm, Purcell always seems about to break into a smile, even as he accuses the student of lying.

"I think you know, you're just not telling me. Are you going to tell me the truth or not?"

"I've been in my room the whole night," the student says.

"You're roommate said you left the room," says Cooley.

"I did leave."

"You just said you were here all night!"

After ten or fifteen minutes of this, the officers leave. "We try to give them every opportunity to come clean," explains Purcell with the same patient smile. If a student is cooperative and truthful, Residence Life will be more accommodating when assessing the situation.

3:35—The Final Hours

"Just about any problem that arises tends to be alcohol related," Purcell observes as he pulls into the Public Safety parking lot. Outside Franklin the same students are still playing basketball, although the air is nearly frigid now. The last notes of a Led Zeppelin song die as Purcell takes the key from the ignition.

Inside, Cooley is typing up a work order for a busted door in Gateway Village, and Daly is at the dispatch desk relieving Moccio, who is out on a coffee run. It is difficult to believe that the shift is only half over; the last half, Purcell says, always seems much longer. In this quiet time the officers get their paperwork done and answer any calls that come in.

In the final hours, though, things can still happen — even in the early morning, mischief is afoot. At 3:45 Purcell answers a lockout call at Berkshire and discovers a discharged fire extinguisher in the second floor stairwell door, rigged to set off the fire alarms. Big John, still on student patrol, opens the windows while Purcell sweeps up the powder with a broom and dustpan. In the course of the evening he has been a counselor and mediator; now, though he would probably cringe at the word, he is a custodian.

It's all a night's work, though, all part of the same job. At seven in the morning Purcell and his crew will finally go home, while at least some students safely sleep off hangovers on a bright and sunny Sunday morning.

Students and Professos Participate in Day of Recognition

AWARDS, from page 1

dents, faculty, and staff and said he was very proud of them and the College.

The first set of awards were given to the faculty. Dr. William M. Hulbert and Dr. James V. Masi were named Professors Emeriti. Hulbert was not present, but Masi was. Masi was honored for his 18 years of service to the college, his many achievements, and his love for teaching. He received a standing ovation.

The next big award, the Teaching Excellence Award, went to Dr. Ted Johnson-South. In a short, emotional speech he said we was very honored and that he hoped the College would find more ways to recognize the work of his collegues.

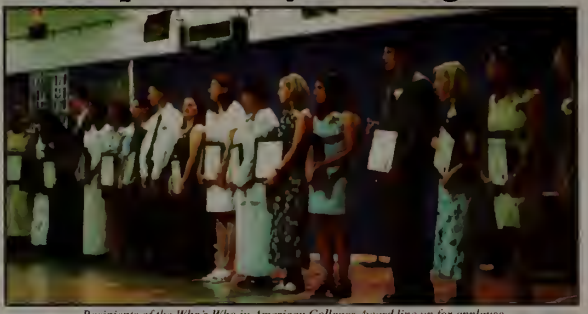
The Alfred and Marian LaRiviere Merit Scholarship Award was given to Laura E. Sturgis.

Next it was time for the Student Honors awards, given to students in all four schools at Western New England College. A total of 45 awards were given out in the schools of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering and Law. After an hour and a half of recognition and scholarships, the ceremony came to a close with the Campus Chorus presentation of our Alma Mater.

Everyone then left the gym for the AHLC lobby, where a reception was held with drinks and other refreshments from Food Services.

When the socializing was through, it was time to head to the other section of the gym, which had been transformed into an Aramak dining hall with approximately 50 eight person tables, with what appeared to be desert already on the tables. It was here that this year's Students Award ceremony was held. Director of Student Activities Maureen Keizer was the presenter for these next set of awards, which had been kept top secret.

The Student Life Award was given to Jennifer Wright for her outstanding work in CAB, U&ME, and other successful activities. This year's Student Association Recognition Award was given to Jennifer Cunningham. Professor Denise Gosselin gave a very personal and thoughtful speech about this Cunningham and all the hard work she did in order to receive this award.



Recipients of the Who's Who in American Colleges Award line up for applause

The Scholar Athlete Awards were presented with more personal and thoughtful speeches from each of the recipient's coaches. This years recipient's were women's soccer player Kate Brunelle and wrestler Jonathan Kanavich.

Finally, close to two and a half hours later, the most awaited award of the evening was presented: Graduate of the Year.

And this year's Graduate of the Year went to the ubiquitious Tim St. James (St. James has appeared on the cover of four issues of *The Westerner*). The credentials of this individual clearly made him the perfect candidate for this award. From resident advisor, to an athlete, to the President of the Senior Class, Tim St. James has been one of the most active students on campus.

Four and half hours later it was all over: the awards, the honor, the butterflies in the stomachs, and the applause for this year's recipients.

Engineering Students Finish Senior Projects

by Jennifer O'Brien
Staff Writer

Before graduating from the School of Engineering at Western New England College, students are required to complete a senior design project.

In the process, they have opportunities to work with sponsors to gain actual engineering experience.

For those who have no idea about what happens during the infamous late nights and early mornings at the Engineering Labs of Sleith Hall, think of this as a small insight into the world of Engineering senior projects.

These are focused projects, requiring students to bring a problem to the table and then devise a solution based on the courses they have taken during their time as a undergraduates — using both economic analysis and CAD design. Students in all branches of the major are responsible for a project relating to their field: Biomedical Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Electrical Engineering, or Mechanical Engineering.

The main purpose of the senior project, according to Dean of the School of Engineering Eric Haffner, is "the experience of real problem solving."

It is real world experience while still in a classroom environment, with the ability to work with outside resources and industrial sponsors.

Under the advisory of Professor Steve Schreiner, students Shawn LaRocco, Michele Simmons, and Christopher Stephens are currently finishing their project in the field of image-guided surgery.

Paul Doyon's senior project: Redesign of o High Tibiol Osteotomy Fixture for use on the Femur at Coolesce Inc. under the supervision of Dr. Robert Azor ond Dr. Steven Schreiner

These students are designing, constructing and testing an electromechanical interface for a specialized surgical device. This will be used with image-guided surgical products under a grant from Navigation Technologies, Inc.

Other Senior Design Projects for this semester include Todd Cortelli's design of a shock suppressor with variable stiffness for lower Prosthetic limbs, at Shriners Hospital under Dr. Azar.

Paul Johnson did work on the standardization of metal parts in the fan process at Spencer Turbine Company under Dr. Nelson, and Joseph Colebourn and Joseph Miozzi worked on improving lightshape and 4" glowstick manufacturing lines to reduce floor space and labor costs at Omniglow Corp. under Dr. Teng.

"We feel that in order to produce the best engineers, we've got to take our students beyond classrooms, computers, and labs to the types of working projects they'll be required to take on once they've graduated," commented Dean Haffner.

The strength of Senior Projects are shown when they combine theory, modeling, and hands-on instrumentation in the analysis and design of a product. A culmination of four years of studying and applying theory in problem solving — that is what the projects are all about.

Criminal Justice Banquet Held

Cunningham Receives Multiple Awards

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer

On Thursday, April 29th the Criminal Justice Association and Criminal Justice Honors Society had their third annual end of the year banquet.

At the banquet, members of both organizations were honored for their hard work throughout the school year.

Professor Larry Field announced the first award, which was given to two senior members of the Criminal Justice Honors Society for presenting excellent papers at the national conference in Orlando, Florida.

Jennifer Cunningham earned this award for her paper on "The Importance of Battered Women's Shelter and the Services They Provide", while Christie Scribner earned this award for her paper on "Critical Stress Incidents."

Cunningham was also presented a plaque for being named the National Outstanding Member of the American Criminal Justice Honors Society at this years conference.

The Honors Society honored all the senior members for their hard work throughout the years. The students that were honored were Graham Borg, Kathleen Comparone, Jennifer Cunningham, Rory Groh, Jen Hill, Angela Loiurio, Mike Roach, Christie Scribner, and Tim St. James.

These students were presented stoles that they will be wearing at graduation in May.

The Criminal Justice Association also honored the senior members for their hard work. Kathy Comparone, Jennifer Cunningham, Mike Roach, Christie Scribner, and Tim St. James were presented senior gifts from the CJ Association.

Both the Criminal Justice Honors Society and Association presented gifts to their advisor for their help throughout the school year.

The students gave Dr. Caprio a mug and tote bag from their national conference.

They gave Al Ingham, the CJ Association advisor, a gift certificate to Salvatore's. They presented Denise Gosselin, the advisor for both groups, with a picture collage and flowers. They also gave flowers to Maureen Pollard, their Career Councilor. Finally, they gave Bill Comerro a Mickey Mouse Mug for giving them a ride to the airport.

The exiting seniors also gave post-it notes to the incoming leaders of both organizations.

Chemistry Club Helps Clean Mill Pond

by Natalie Pisarcik
Staff Writer

On Saturday, April 24 the Chemistry Club joined the City of Springfield, the Springfield Science Museum, Big Y Corp. and a few other organizations in an Earth day cleanup of Springfield's Mill River.

The Mill River begins in the mountains of Wilbraham and branches off into two sections (North and South branch) and then rejoins again as it flows right through downtown Springfield, under all the buildings. The river then lets out into the Connecticut River — and with it all of Springfield's waste.

What many don't know is that the Mill River flows directly behind Gateway Village. Breckwood pond is actually a section of this famous Springfield river. As you read this article, the pond and river are becoming highly polluted with trash, most of which is non-biodegradable — and most of this trash travels down from this campus.

On this Saturday, students filled 30 large garbage bags of trash with litter that was near the Breckwood pond area right behind Gateway village. Altogether, close to a few hundred tons of trash were pulled from all over the Mill River. One whole dumpster was filled with discarded shopping carts, tires, and other large items. Numerous bags were filled with glass bottles to be recycled.

All in all, seven hard-working WNEC students volunteered their services to Mother Earth to clean up this once beautiful river. Work began at 8:30 in the morning and concluded at 3:30pm. An enormous amount of trash was collected from the river and its watershed. The volunteers worked hard to make an area near the college campus a little more pleasant for everyone, as well as its surrounding habitat.

It is almost guaranteed that this event will be held next April around Earth Day, and as many as possible are encouraged to. If you can not attend, do your part by placing litter and trash in its appropriate place.

Thank you.

Mandel Institutes New Honor Society

by Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

As of next fall, a new Honor Society is expected to be fully formed and operational. The Pynchon Society, named for the 17th century founder of Springfield William Pynchon, will be an all-college association open to Seniors.

The minimum requirement for eligibility for selection is a GPA in the top 35% of the Junior class. These prospective members are to be selected by a Steering Committee for the initial year, then by the existing membership each subsequent year.

This Honor Society is the brainchild of Professor Bill Mandel, Asst. Professor of Government. He first became interested in seeing a Senior Honor Society on campus when he witnessed the induction of new members into Alpha Lambda Delta, the Freshman Honor Society, at the beginning of his first semester at Western New England College.

Since then he has worked with a number of students to develop the outlines of the new program. The Society will be open to those graduating in December as well as May.

The Pynchon Society will not to be an organization simply to recognize student excellence and achievement, but is designed to be a "council of senior leaders," providing an outlet for active seniors to collaborate on and generate new and interesting ideas and programs for the campus.

In addition, the active participation of the Pynchon Society on campus will hopefully encourage other students to succeed and achieve in whatever field they choose.

Eventually the Pynchon Society hopes to become an affiliated member of the Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society.

With over 200 chapters nationally, the Mortar Board is a highly esteemed organization that recognizes student excellence and achievement.

In preparation for entry, the Pynchon Society has already adopted some of the requirements for entry, including the limitation of yearly membership to between fifteen and forty students.

While the organization will recognize academic achievement and outstanding service to the college community, it will also link together senior leaders in a network to enable them to better serve the campus as a whole.

Advice Column

Ask Sandy & Rizzo ...

(Sandy and Rizzo are The Westerner's advice columnists. It may not be good, but it's definitely advice.)

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,
I am 22 years old and my underage friends are always asking me to buy them alcohol or let them borrow my ID for a night of partying and boozing! Is it unfair to be compensated for this, like taking a few extra beers for myself? I don't mind doing it, they are my friends but it does take up some of my precious time. Also, will I get arrested if an underage gets caught with my ID?
—ID-less in Springfield

Believe it or not, purchasing alcohol for minors and lending them your ID is illegal. If it were legal, there would be no reason to do it, because then minors could purchase their own alcohol. So regarding the part of the question that asks whether or not your action could get you arrested, I'd have to say probably yes. I don't know for sure since I am not a legal expert.

Now, the fairness issue is another question. Most people that are underaged will offer their suppliers a few beers in thanks. If you end up buying alcohol for a rude person that doesn't after a few beers, then do whatever you feel is right at the time. Take a beer, don't take a beer, whatever. It's not really a good situation to be in either way.

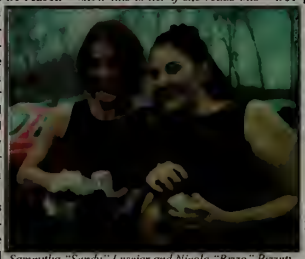
—Sandy

I can relate but it sure doesn't bother me to buy for my friends. It just gives me an excuse to go to the liquor store for me! But I don't let anyone borrow my ID, I mean, who's to say that I am not going to need it that night, right? A partying situation could occur at any moment. You won't get arrested if someone else is using your ID when you are not involved in the situation. But it you alter your own ID, that would definitely be a call for the coppers.

You could get in trouble this way but you will usually just have it confiscated. You will only be arrested if your ID is altered and you buy alcohol in the presence of an officer. You must really think that I am a power of knowledge, but no no no, I called Public Safety for some info and the rest I know from a little experience. So in the end, don't loan your ID if you ever want it back and always take a beer when buying for others.

*****Rizzo**

Dear Sandy and Rizzo,
My roommate is quite promiscuous, but that's not the issue. To make a long story short, she busted our bunk bed. If you need details to fill in the blanks: she brought home another man ... large man ... quite active large man ... they were quite active ... together ... got my drift? They were really drunk. I was sober. I was on the top bunk, they were on the bottom bunk. I bet you can get your imagination to do the rest. I am sure she will know this is her if she reads this but I don't want to pay the fine for the busted bed of love. What should I do?
—Bunk Bed Blues


Samantha "Sandy" Lussier and Nicole "Rizzo" Pizzuti

I would call your RA and tell her/him that your bed is broken, if you haven't already. Your RA will call maintenance and have them fix or replace the bed ASAP. The bottom line is this: there is no reason why either one of you should have to pay a fine for a broken bed. Also there is absolutely no reason why a bed should break under "normal usage" And yes, having "active" sex with an extremely large man should constitute "normal usage." If you do get a fine for the "broken bed of love", discuss the situation with your roommate. Tell her that you should not have to pay for her crazy love-making. Be completely honest with her. If you are not, you might end up paying a $50 fine because your roommate got a little too crazy one night.

—Sandy

.... Oh, sorry, I was lost in thought. I was trying to imagine what the hell you were doing during this whole ordeal, I mean, with them shaggin' on down below and you trying not to fall out of bed from the shockwaves. Those beds are pretty hard to break so you must have thought an earthquake hit. And I am sure you were trying to take a peek anyway but had to hold on for dear live so you didn't fly off the top bunk (I know how it is!) But I would certainly not worry about it. Not that maintenance is incompetent but I really don't think that they will be finding that broken bed and charging you anything. They are pretty good like that.

In final good-bye...

Hi WNEC! For those of you who don't know us, my name is Samantha Lussier, and Rizzo is Nicole Pizzuti. The column was supposed to be based on "Grease", with Sandy being really innocent, and Rizzo being, well, herself. However, since I'm not perfectly innocent, and Nicole isn't really bad, it didn't always turn out like it was supposed to. I really enjoyed writing the column this year. It thought me a lot about the College and myself. I hope that everyone found it as entertaining as Nicole and I did.

Now, I am going to leave you all with some advice: Have fun. Having fun is the most important thing you can do for yourself. Don't let anyone ruin your good time, even if it's an ex that you still care about. I just learned that myself.

Well, that's about it! I wish you all the best of luck in your lives!

—Love, Sandy

It completely shocks me that some people, once they knew that Samantha and I wrote this column, would ask, "Nicole, which one are you?" Anyone who knows either of us at all knows that Sandy & Rizzo may be just a column but they fit our personalities well. That was the point, Sandy is sweet and innocent and Rizzo is ... well, you know.

I wanted to do this column for some fun and it sure was. I will never forget the black latex suit, WNEC's gift giving problems, telling Sandy she was too sweet, or having to beg my editor not to edit out my swear words or my raunchy responses (he still did). Thanks WNEC for the questions and for reading this column every issue.

Remember three things: (1) make life a hobby, (2) make a list of things you want to do before you die and do half of them before your next birthday, and (3) as Mike Brody would say, wherever you go, there you are.

—Nicole Pizzuti

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

After four years of study and hard work, most seniors feel a mixture of relief and regret upon graduation. They look forward to exciting new lives in graduate school or "the real world," but they also miss the friends they have made and the experiences they have shared. With seniors now on the cusp of graduation, our roving reporters asked students to tell us their favorite memories from their time at Western New England College.

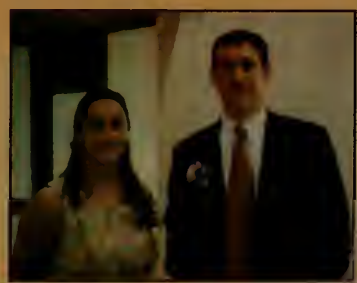
... What will you miss the most about Western New England College?

"I'm going to miss my five roommates that I've had for the past four years."
— Kristin Knight

"Night at Mory's with the Guys."
— Mark Brittain

"I'm going to miss Crazy Natalie stage diving in the bushes."
— Jennifer Cunningham

"Sophia's!"
— *Julie Gentile, Megan Skidmore, Laura Lebiedz, Alyson Duby*



"I'm going to miss the support from the staff."
— Leslee Larrivee

"I'm gonna miss not being away from my parents."
— Graham Borg

"I'm going to miss all the friends I've made here and all the fun just hanging out in classes and talking with and about professors."
— Becky Lauber (left)

"I'm going to miss the students, of course."
— Dr. Robert Azar (retiring)

"I'm going to miss the family atmosphere between students and faculty."
— Theresa Steces

Senior Bids Farewell to WNEC

On May 22nd my Western New England College career will be over. I hope so, anyway — I don't think I can afford another year here. But after finally realizing that I'm graduating in close to 14 days, you know there is a lot of stuff that has happened in the past four years. Some good, some bad, some really bad, and some just really funny.

All in all, it has been a real journey and one of the most exciting times in my life. I love to sit back as a senior and listen to all the freshmen complain about things, from their homework load to their places of residences to the food in the dining hall. It makes me laugh, and then I ask myself — was I this way when I was a freshman? Anyway, my only word of advice is that it only gets worse and better from here and to just suck it up like the rest of us.

Most of us have been there, from the smelly dorms that made us gag to the 2:00am fire alarms in the middle of a blizzard, to the annoying, overrated College Success Skills Class (a.k.a. Freshman Focus Program).

Most of the freshman females were trapped in the former Virgin Vault (Windham Hall). This damn place was so secure you could barely get out in a fire alarm. We had no cable, just two channels with an enormous amount of static or shadows. As long as the channel with *Melrose* or *Days* came in clear, we were happy. Quiet hours started strictly at 9:00pm, no exceptions! Alanis blasted from nearly every single window and Dave Matthew's was just heating up.

The freshman thirty was a proven fact after a few months of eating at the dining hall. We all swore that food services put laxatives in the food because it just seemed biologically impossible that ten minutes after each meal you were running to the bathroom with a magazine or some homework. The brown trays were bad luck, and many of us thought it would be funny to try to throw Jell-O on the ceiling. Festive meals always drew in the crowds and most of us would get pissed when some upperclassmen would steal our favorite table. It wasn't long before that salad and bagel became the meal of choice for most of us. And we quickly learned to stay clear of the soup pot on the weekends. Ahhh ... it was the life.

But we also had some really great times. We had Senations (does anyone even know what happened to that place?). We thought we were cool when we would walk through Gateway, as if it were another world or something. And when we would actually go to a Gateway party, we always seemed to find our PA or other ones at it.

CAB was awesome, with a fall concert and a spring comedy show. All their events were great successes, and it was worthwhile to

go to them. There was no such thing as Web-Mail and Manhattan was nothing but an island out in New York City. E-mailing someone wasn't just as easy as clicking a mouse button, and the Writing Center didn't believe that Microsoft Word even existed, but they did have working printers.

Of course, as we proceeded things changed each year. Most of us went on to live in the donuts or gateway, but some of us were placed back in the dorms. Windham Hall was refurbished, except for the tag sale books that probably some person donated one hundred years ago, which are still lined the new bookshelves in the lobby.

Classes were a little more complicated and the place to be on Wednesday night was that rat nest of a bar, The Well. Thursday nights it was the Side Bar and the rest of the weekend it was Kokomos with its supposedly famous indoor waterfall, which was nothing more then a hose trickling water down a cement wall. And I believe it was this year that Sophs first opened its sports bar to the WNEC campus. On one April Fools day we actually had a snow day. Whoever said WNEC stood for We Never Ever Close?

President Caprio was inaugurated after Miller threw in the towel. After this, major changes would he on their way. The men's lacrosse team became champions, and it was the first year that women's lacrosse had a season.

It wasn't long before the third year rolled around. Classes seemed to become a little more stressful and most of us now lived in Gateway. The bar nights were still the same, although Kokomos died and we all moved up to Soph's and Morys. We were now upperclassmen.

Suddenly, however, CAB didn't seem to exist, and where were we supposed to vote at the Student Senate elections? Who was Student Senate? The athletic program hit rock bottom, and Geldhart was handed the pink slip. *The Westerner* actually had a paper out every other week instead of every other three months. And how about that Semi formal? How many hotels are we banned from now? We were relaxed and didn't seem to have to worry about much, except for classes and the bills we might have to pay. And when this year was finally over, we would all be seniors — well, most of us.

Returning in the fall of 1998, things were clearly changing. Seniors, who decided to wait to the last minute to take a gym class, lucked out by the changing of the curriculum. I would have recommended the walking and jogging class. The athletic program hired a new and prosperous Athletic Director and Assistant Athletic Director, and they formed an athletic council. The fall, winter, and spring sports teams all accomplished their best seasons in years after the changes to the program.

Socially it was the same, only now this time we were the leaders, the role models of the college campus. Mory's and Soph's were the places to be on the weekends. And that hole in the wall, The Well, was still the Wednesday evening hang-out. We had our water-downed beer and cold walks back to our apartments, stumbling in the dead of winter from Mory's or Soph's, with the freedom to do whatever we wanted, as long as it was legal.

Fourteen days from now it will be all over — the laughter, the work, the craziness, the good and bad times, all of it. We all have our own personal memories from this place that we will all cherish many years from now. We have pictures and videos (some of us, at least) that we will look at years from now and say, "Hey remember that time? Those were the days."

Those were the days, and as with almost all good things, they never seem to last and must come to an end. With that last thought, I'm going to sign off for good. You will never have to read (if you ever did) another one of my articles/editorials in this paper.

Thank you all for making the past four years of my life an interesting one.

"Crazy" Natalie Pisarcik

Freshman Looks Back on First Year of College

As a freshman reflecting on the past year, it seems to have both flown by in a second, and to have stretched on forever. Each one of the class of 2002 has a different memory of our first year. Maybe we loved it, maybe we loathed it. But however we felt, it has passed us by and left us with a new stock of memories to look back on, memories that are only one fourth of the those we'll have graduating.

Trying to recollect it in the mind brings back mostly a haze, whether of hours of schoolwork, or a haze of inebriation, or one of good times. But for all of us there were a few events that stand significant in most of our memories.

That's why I refer to we instead of I. There were some things the whole Freshman class did, whether we wanted to or not. Sometimes we were too wrapped up in our work to notice the importance of things that happened, things that are only significant in hindsight:

- We walked into someplace where we were strangers and formed communities
- We were trapped in the wrestling room for two hours before opening ceremonies
- We learned about the quality of Aramark food
- We wandered the campus confused and lost during the first few weeks
- We reveled in the freedom of being away from home
- We missed home and wanted to return
- We survived the tedious 'freshman focus' programs, in the Rivers Hall echo chamber
- We saw that college wasn't the ivory tower it was portrayed as in high school, but something different than we expected
- We picked our majors, switched, then switched again.
- We contemplated our future
- We put our pasts behind for a fresh start
- We watched some decide WNEC wasn't for them and leave after just a few days.
- We watched some find WNEC perfect and succeed, each according to their own definition of success
- We saw 1998 turn to 1999

All of these, and our own individual memories, help make up the mosaic we will remember as our first year in college.

As freshmen we look at the school through naive eyes; we don't yet know its problems, and everything looks like a great opportunity.

This is not to say that the truth is a bad thing — even after that initial naivete is gone, WNEC is still a great school. But we do net yet know the problems, the imperfections, the things that could be done to make WNEC a better place.

Perhaps it is just looking through the tinted glasses of optimism, but many seniors seem jaded, and reluctant to try to make a change. As we move through college and learn more about it, we should use our experience but never lose that optimism we had walking into this school.

Everyone has memories of the First Day. Two thousand students who had never met before were thrown onto the same campus. For the first few hours we wandered around, staring at faces, wanting to have somebody to talk to on this day but unable to just randomly approach a complete stranger and start a conversation, it was better to stay quiet then risk getting a bad first impression.

But as we were put in our groups for SOAR or the first week people starting talking and those walls began to break down. Coming to college was a new start, like the day after New years when you're sure all your resolutions will be kept. Any social successes, or stigmas, left over from high school are gone and after climbing down, everyone has a chance to re-ascend the social ladder.

Looking back at this year tells us if me made or broke that chance. Here are two thousand new people who you have never seen, all potential friends or potential rivals. Just a few weeks later, those strangers had already formed new friendships, new groups, new relationships and loves. A community formed almost overnight. But

See FRESHMAN, page 10

Media Misrepresents Positive Lifestyle

Recently, on popular news programs such as CBS Evening News and 20/20, there have been unbelievably deceptive segments on the straight-edge lifestyle.

I am concerned that these programs portray followers of this lifestyle as militant and violent,

Lifestyle Viewpoint

and I would like to offer a more accurate personal account of the straight-edge lifestyle on behalf of the growing number of straight-edgers on the WNEC campus.

Straight-edge is first and foremost about a commitment people make to themselves to keep their bodies free from alcohol, nicotine and other drugs. In addition, many also choose not to engage in promiscuous sex.

Some, but not all, straight-edgers are also vegetarian or vegan (vegetarians who do not consume or use any animal product or by-product, including dairy), because such values go hand in hand with living a positive lifestyle.

Young people involved in hardcore and punk scenes adopted this doctrine as a way to live more consciously and positively, as well as a way to extend themselves to the world around them.

The symbol for straight-edge, the "X," originated in the 1980s. When hardcore and punk band held shows at clubs and bars, those who were underage received a black "X" across their hands. Soon straight-edgers of all ages (even those over 21) used this symbol to advertise their beliefs. A sense of unity developed within this group as young people now had a means of identifying others with similar beliefs.

Lately, the media has gruesomely misrepresented the straight-edge lifestyle.

While the majority of straight-edgers only passively try to educate others, there is a small faction of extremists called "hardliners."

Hardliners are a militant group of straight-edgers who are not only straight-edge and vegan, but also have numerous other conservative, strict beliefs. Some hardliners also tend to act violently on those who oppose them.

In February of last year, CBS Evening News aired a segment as part of its Eyes on America series about Josh, a hardliner involved in the firebombing of a McDonald's and a fur trapping business in Salt Lake City, UT. Although both acts were centered around his vegan ideology and barely even correlated with straight-edge alone, CBS chose to focus on straight-edge as the cause.

Illustrated by a clip from the Salt Lake City Area gang Project regarding Josh's actions, the program proposed that "it is this distorted reasoning shared by violent straight-edgers that concerns authorities." The program went on to refer to straight-edgers as "urban terrorists"

In the past few months, America's Most Wanted and 20/20 have also run segments along the same lines. All seem to be based on the Salt Lake City incident, and all depict straight-edge negatively.

The 20/20 segment, aired on March 26 of this year, also referred to straight-edgers as "terrorists" and "gang members," a group that should be "watched closely at the 2002 Olympic Games."

The presentation on 20/20 also featured a sociology professor who claimed that once the message was stripped away, "straight-edge is nothing more than a gang."

Straight-edgers show off their Xs at a hard-core show

How can the message be stripped away when the entire lifestyle is based on its principles? Straight-edge is a set of personal beliefs, but of course there is a sort of unity among those who live this way. However, straight-edge is not a gang or a terrorist group.

Another point of interest is that not only have these programs only interviewed white Americans (straight-edge is global, not just national).

Also, none have interviewed female straight-edgers, who make up a substantial percentage of the straight-edge population around the world. It seems that they should include a representative sample and not base their programs around the comments of a few white American male hardliners.

The straight-edge philosophy is not familiar to most members of mainstream society, and when the media, especially in the form of popular news programs, depict straight-edge in this negative manner, it truly depreciates the value of such a positive movement.

The majority of straight-edgers are not involved in, associated with, or even in accordance with the strict views of hardliners like Josh and their violent philosophies.

Society truly does not understand the staight-edge lifestyle, and that is no wonder when the information being presented to the public is so distorted.

Adults often complain about the problems of youths and young adults, yet straight-edge is something extremely positive that should not be feared, but embraced.

Perhaps the media wants to portray straight-edge in this negative way because historically, radical counter-cultures have always seemed threatening to the norm.

Since most people do not know much at all about this lifestyle, they may never know that what they are being shown is inaccurate. This could be detrimental to the lives and careers of any straight-edger. I know I wouldn't want the parents of the students in my field-work site to have seen these programs, as they might fear my involvement in the subculture and my influence on their children.

Going against the tide is not easy at any age when the majority of the social scene is based around alcohol consumption, but most straight-edgers believe that the rewards will be greater than the difficulties of alienation. It is unfortunate that the media has so inconsiderately misrepresented a positive, healthy lifestyle.

Anne Marie Damion

WNEC Shows Commitment to Improvement

Things are changing at Western New England College. Slowly but surely, the focus and direction of the college community is being altered and shifted.

These changes are perhaps imperceptible to most of us as we struggle to complete the requirements needed to graduate, but certainly they are unavoidable.

Western New England College is no longer the same school it was three years ago, or even one year ago for that matter. These changes are changes for the better.

Western New England College has experienced a Renaissance of sorts concerning the Athletic programs on campus.

This rebirth of interest in WNEC Sports can be explained by the addition of new athletic directors and advisors, coupled with active involvement of student leaders, and the critically important spirit and drive of WNEC's athletes.

Inconceivable even one year ago, the mood of WNEC students toward sports is one of optimism and interest, far different from the apathy and detachment that prevailed three years ago.

This mood is responsible for the stellar success of last semester's "Midnight Madness" event, one of the most successful in recent College history.

Last semester Western New England College joined the ranks of most major colleges and universities by adding an "Honors Curriculum" to the campus academic program.

The program has given students that have demonstrated the will and ability to study at an advanced rate and the chance to excel academically. This signals the desire by Western New England College to reward and encourage excellence and academic achievement by students, above and beyond what has been accomplished in the past.

Finally, the College has been taken in a new direction by the change in administrative positions from the President on down.

President Caprio and Vice President Hirsch have demonstrated a desire to reinvigorate the academic outlook of WNEC and to expand the base of learning for all people on campus, both faculty and students.

This "new look" of the administration has included an increased focus on academic excellence and creative expression. Also, there has been an added focus on interdisciplinary study and cross-curricular interaction between faculty.

These changes benefit the students by enriching the learning environment and adding to the educational structure.

With all of these beneficial changes in the making, why are so many people so upset?

Perhaps the problem exists simply in the warped mind of this writer, but a definite trend of cynicism and negativity has pervaded the campus in the last semester and a half.

While this column has often been critical, it has never been negative. This column has always tried to highlight perceived wrongs and fix them. This desire indicates a positive motive to improve things for everybody.

Negative people deny that their circumstances can improve, and that "the system" will always remain screwed up and broken. These people tend to be bitter and unable to fathom a positive change in their situation.

Often they derive more pleasure from complaining about their situation than they would by actually fixing it. These people are important because they are usually the ones that stand athwart the forces of change, even when those forces are recognized by all as positive and good.

Negative people feel that change is bad. Change is bad because it might upset the delicate "niche" that they have carved out for themselves in whatever corner

See CHANGE, page 10

What Big Bank Mergers Mean for Students

Not too long after SISBank, the largest bank in the area that was still locally owned and operated, converted its systems to become part of People's Heritage, the area's two largest banks, Fleet and BankBoston, announced plans for what they called "strategic alliance" - or merger.

While banking is an important industry for people across the country, college students are always a group that banks focus on. They will be starting careers, they may want to build credit, and they may need loans for cars or school. Many college students are also away from home for the first time, and may be a little bit more vulnerable than other markets when it comes to being solicited to purchase things they don't need.

When banks are acquired or go through mergers, their customers are always going to be affected in some ways. SISBank, which is now on a network with Family Bank, has implemented monthly service charges on most of its accounts, something very new to the institution.

While Fleet and BankBoston still await regulatory approval on their proposed merger, plans for divestiture - selling branches and accounts to other banks so as to avoid antitrust action - are well underway.

What do these mergers mean for students? What changes are going to take place when it comes to student accounts? Will students continue to be a major market for the new, larger banks?

The first thing you should look for when you go into a bank, whether to open an account, ask information, or cash a check, is service. Do you feel as though you are being rushed through the line, ignored, or that there is an air of mistrust about the associate helping you?

Service is something that is important everywhere, and smaller banks claim to have better service than bigger ones on a general level. This may, in fact, be true, since larger banks often have long, trickling chains of command, and the people making the policies are not the people working with the customers. On the other hand, a bigger bank will most likely have more, and better, resources available to help you.

Something else you need to look for are the products and services the bank has available to you. As a student, you need flexibility in your banking.

Does the bank have a lot of branches or ATMs, since you have to walk or take bus? Are there branches with extended hours, since 9-3 is not really in your schedule? When and how can you get help on your accounts?

Most banks offer some sort of automated telephone help, and many also have at least a skeleton crew of people to answer questions 24 hours a day.

There is also a trend in Internet banking - Woronoco, United Co-op, SISBank, Fleet, BankBoston, and other banks have on-line bill payment and account information, and on some web pages, you can even open accounts or apply for credit cards.

Another question you need to ask is, "am I willing to pay for these services, and if so, how much?"

Bank accounts that have monthly fees run anywhere from $1 to $10 each month. Sometimes there are transaction fees, and sometimes you have to be aware of what you get charged for.

Fleet, for example, has an account with a monthly fee, but customers get charged for using a teller. BankBoston has a similar account with a higher monthly fee, but that fee is lowered if customers do not use a teller.

The trend toward electronic banking fares well for college students. It is cheaper for banks if customers bank electronically (through the ATM, automated telephone systems and the Internet) because transactions take less time, service associates do not need to be paid, and the bank is less likely to suffer a loss due to a human error.

The trend toward mergers and bigger banks, however, does not necessarily fare as well for students, although there may be some advantages.

The proposed merger between Fleet and BankBoston would make the new institution (for now called Fleet Boston) the eighth largest bank in the country. It will also be, by far, the biggest bank in New England.

These two facts alone could make Fleet Boston tempting to a bank like BankOne or Bank of America, both of which are enormous but have no branches in New England and a very small customer base here.

If such an institution were to buy out Fleet Boston, there is a chance that the regional branches would be run by people who live and work in New York, Chicago or Los Angeles, or another area far out of town.

The advantage of that is that customers will be able to get branch service in most parts of the U.S. Students who live further away would not need to open accounts at home and at school and keep moving the money back and forth — they could put all the money in one bank that is in both their hometowns and near school.

The disadvantages of large banks that are centered out of town is that there is little room for rules to be bent, exceptions to be made, and problems to be fixed.

Banks that are situated locally may be able to get faster answers on credit decisions — often important if the customer is buying a car, especially a used one; local banks may also be able to tailor some of their policies to customers as necessary, since the people who are highest up in terms of control may very well live or work down the street and be able to come meet with customers on an individual basis.

In case of errors, smaller banks may be able to find the source of the error more quickly, although a larger bank may be able to dedicate more staff to fixing one error.

Larger banks almost always look to be bigger, so some of the smaller, local banks sometimes get bought out by the lager ones. Smaller banks also have to worry about keeping enough business to stay open and separate from the enormous institutions, so often two or three community banks will merge, creating a larger, but still local, bank.

Whatever your feelings are about banks, at least one bank will play a major role in your life at some point. No matter who you are, your pay from work will either be in the form of a check or will go straight into your bank account. You will want a place to keep your money and perhaps other valuables that is insured and well-guarded.

You need to decide what you need in terms of products, what you want in terms of service, and what you are willing to pay, if anything, for these products and services.

Be sure to keep in mind where your money will be going (the CEO's bonus or to making the service better for customers, for example), and how difficult it will be for you to get the most out of your bank.

Josh Shear

A Freshman Reflects on First Year of College

FRESHMAN, from page 8

now that new start has passed, and we must live the legacy we have formed in this first year.

Coming to college, I expected to walk into a hotbed of radicalism. My picture of college was the one of students holding daily protests and taking over administrative buildings for revolutionary political issues, demanding the downfall of capitalism between classes.

I expected to see a lot of volunteerism. College students are sometimes referred to as the most idealistic group of people there is. I was surprised to see very little to none of that at WNEC. Though there are many notable exceptions and it is wrong to generalize, there seems to be a plague of apathy. The oppressed people of the world are given only a quick glance on TV while the remote looks for the next episode of Springer.

Possibly I was expecting too much, and got a good dose of reality. There may be readers screaming that they are different, and I am sure you are.

But that sense of idealism seems to be absent. Most students, asked why they were in college thirty years ago, would say 'to be enlightened' or 'to find my focus in life'.

Now the response is a universal 'get a good job to make lots of money'.

This too is an admirable goal. But can we take a few moments to look beyond the quest for wealth and lend a hand to another?

Many freshman found a club or group they could get involved in or found events interesting enough to go to. It was the search that was the first interesting part. At the Student Activities Fair we wandered about to the sounds of WNEK looking at the many club's stands.

Many signed up for several clubs that they would end up not attending. Or clubs that would even become nonexistent as the year went on, but most people found some extracurricular thing to get involved in. WNEC also put on many speakers and events during the year, which were well attended, but usually by the same faces.

One had to wonder where everyone else is. Did WNEC not provide enough activities to get general interest? If so, why weren't students speaking up? Were we just too busy, or is it just the gradually spreading plague of apathy? It almost seemed like an oligarchy of involved people appeared, and little was know of where everyone else went.

Every freshman has a different look back on this year. We can also all look forward to next year, when we will be the sophomores who looked like they knew everything that was going on each day.

Perhaps after reading my recollection yours was completely different from mine. We each have to draw our own meaning out of the past year and what we want for the next. This was our last year of the millenium, and we made the most of it.

See you at opening ceremonies, 2000.

James Russell

Positive Change at WNEC

CHANGE, from page 9

of the world they inhabit. While their situation is not "good" by their reckoning, it is "comfortable" and "secure."

These people would fit the model that John Locke laid out in his statement; "New opinions are always suspected, and usually opposed, without any other reason but because they are not already common."

This column is important because in this time of changes at WNEC, especially changes for the better, we must be careful not to let the forces of close-minded opposition stand in the way.

Obviously, some things must be opposed. The only time something must be opposed is when it is wrong, not simply when it is new.

We must never accept the argument that something should be the way it is, simply because that is the way it has always been. Previous policy does not justify current or future action. To put it the way Thomas Hobbes did; "Precedents prove only what was done, and not what was done well."

We must embrace the changes that are sweeping Western New England College. Change is the natural outgrowth of human societal evolution, it must be harnessed and focused, but not opposed.

Change is an irrepressible force that is as fundamental to human existence as time or space. Change is not something that can be ignored or denied, otherwise we risk losing valuable opportunities or causing serious harm to ourselves or others.

The changes at WNEC are not limited to those mentioned earlier, others will follow. We must remain spirited and optimistic for whatever lies ahead, we must embrace the future with a willing heart and an open mind.

Craig Nakashian

Senate Budget Hearings Unfair

The Senate budget process — is this a joke or am I supposed to take it seriously? Am I supposed to care? Well of course I am, and so should most of you since the majority of you pay an activities fee as part of your tuition.

There is so much red tape in Student Senate, it is sickening. I think club members and club presidents will all agree with me on this one. My biggest problem, pet peeve, what I'm mad as hell about, is the whole budget process that club/organizations have to go through in order to have a successful semester.

First of all, whoever is in charge of this section of Senate should not be a self-centered, close-minded person. There have been numerous times when I felt like I was pulling teeth with this department. I barely got a straight answer out of them, and when I finally did I found it hard to believe it was even the truth.

The fun always begins at the annual budget hearings. At this event it always feels like your club is getting a penny out of the whole deal. When you pick yourself off the ground after hearing the amount of money your club is receiving, you courageously ask why.

They then give you excuses like, "Well, your club didn't spend all of its money last year." Or, "You just spent your money on food." Or, "Well, you're not CAB." Or, "Well, your club didn't do anything involving community relations with farmers from Alaska in the beginning of April."

Huh? What the hell is that supposed to mean? Farmers from Alaska?

So, since my organization didn't have relations with Alaskan farmers and since we're not CAB, we got our budget cut in half. Is this fair?

So after all of these horrid instances with clubs attempting to get money and presidents and treasures saying, "What the hell just happened?", it's no wonder why quite more than a few people get a little upset about Student Senate.

Is it fair for an organization such as CAB to have members on the Student Senate Exec. Board? And is it fair that every single year they are automatically given a huge chunk of money, while the rest of the organizations on campus are left to fight for the pocket change?

"Well, you should do some fundraisers," they tell us. Well, have any of them tried to do a fundraiser at WNEC? You first have to think up one that will be successful enough in order to make some profit. Then you have to fill out paper work and get it approved and ... yada yada yada.

Once you get the whole thing set up and you must attempt to sell your fundraiser to the campus. Generally people say things like, "Why should I give money to your club, I already paid a $200 activities fee." Or, "I have no money." Or, "I'll buy some later in the week." Some just run away or just ignore you.

Generally when the whole ordeal is over, you may have made a few bucks or lost some, your nerves are shot to hell, and your are going to have to do another one in a few weeks because you need more money. You never see CAB doing a fundraiser, now do you?

Maybe I'm bitter because the club I'm a president of got screwed by Student Senate, but I've slowly gotten over that. I just don't want other students and club/organizations to have to go through all that unnecessary red tape and run-around that I had to go through. It is simply unfair.

Clubs should he rewarded, not punished. If a club wants to go on a conference in order to expand their knowledge in a certain subject and maybe even try to get our school some publicity, they shouldn't be given a hard time about it. It would be nice if clubs were encouraged to do conferences to get connections, to get their names out there, instead of sitting and whining and moaning over the whole situation. It's almost offensive.

If CAB has a bad year, are their funds cut in half, or are they forbidden to go on any trips the following year? Yet if an academic club has a bad year they are given ten cents next time around. Is that the way it works? So the next person in line is punished and can't do anything, can't hold event or activities because they can't afford them and simply because "Hey, the year before you sucked and now you don't get any money. Have a nice day!"

I don't know, but that sounds kind of illogical. But I'm just an average student who is a president of an academic club who forgot to have community relations with Alaskan farmers in April last year. Oops!

My only suggestion is to make a booklet that explains all the large print, small print, all the print of what Student Senate does, and the budget process, and write it in terms so that people, average people, can understand them. Hire work study students, find interns, call NASA, just do something to make the budget process a little more fair and simpler for presidents and students.

And maybe, just maybe you can actually make a few people smile about this organization.

Anonymous

Congratulations to the new inductees of Delta Mu Delta for 1999 The National Business Honor Society with all members having a GPA of 3.4 or higher.

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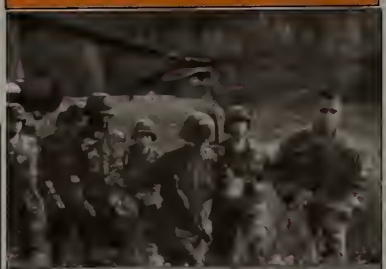

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Stageless Players Perform Original Production

by Samantha Lussier
Staff Writer

On Friday, April 9 and Sunday, April 11, the Stageless Players presented "Remote Kontrol." This production was a collection of skits based on popular (and unpopular) television programs. The main characters, two "stoners," flipped through the channels as the other cast members acted out TV shows and commercials.

"Remote Kontrol" was the first production for the Stageless Players in over three years. For the last two years the group had trouble organizing itself due to administrative problems — specifically, the lack of a faculty advisor.

This year the Stageless Players found a faculty advisor: Deb Kelleher, the Alumni Program Coordinator. Since Kelleher became involved in the group, the Stageless Players have become a very active campus organization.

In the past year, skits by the Stageless Players have become a regular part of Open Mics sponsored by The Review of Art and Literature. Stageless also participated in Little People's Weekend and sponsored a Halloween Party for the children of Between Friends and Family, a Springfield-based AIDS organization.

This year the Stageless Players had about 20 active members. According to Leana Monteiro, this year's Stageless Players President, most of the members had acting experience in high school in varying degrees.

The Stageless Players are looking forward to a productive season next fall. Together with the Chorus, Pep Band, and Dance Team, the group is trying to start a new student arts program at WNEC. The four organizations have already sent information to prospective freshmen regarding the program.

Stageless also hopes to perform two productions during the 1999-2000 school year. According to Monteiro, Stageless may even produce a musical next year with the WNEC Chorus and Pep Band.

Remote Kontrol a Fun Romp Through Pop Culture

by Nicole Pizzuti
Staff Writer

Several weeks ago, I saw a four-wheel-drive vehicle driving around campus with a poster attached to the rear window. "*Stageless Players: Alive and Well!*" it proclaimed. This definitely seems true after their two performances on the weekend of April 9th.

The Sleith "stage" was overtaken by at least 10 - 15 players who wrote and produced *Remote Kontrol* from step one.

Remote Kontrol was a romp through TV and movie land, and included some original episodes as well.

A remote control "click"from the two bored/stoned/tired girls on the couch brought them to station after station.

Similar to a *Saturday Night Live* episode, there were spoofs on *Star Trek*, *The Food Show*, various commercials, *16 Candles*, Trojan Man, a drunken weather man, and interestingly enough, The Spice Boys. There was even an audience participation attempt at the *Rocky Horror Show*.

That last idea was a bit of a concern for the College, since everyone knows there are several items that are to be tossed around during Rocky Horror. Luckily there wasn't any toast, toilet paper, or rice within a five mile radius. But, to the delight of many and the dismay of some, we did get to see the drag queen part of *Rocky Horror*. Hysterical!

Dan Corthell, Leana Monteiro and Joshua Ackley in a scene from "Remote Kontrol"

Trojan man was a repeated success as he continually returned when anyone was about to dabble in any type of sexual encounter. Trojan man was a super hero who got extra power throwing condoms into the audience.

The lunatic pet shop was a skit that had the owner "creating" pets for the customer. "You don't want a chihuahua ... well I can just cut off his back legs and you'll have a fish." Andy White was convincing as an upset yet gullible fish buyer who wanted his money back after purchasing a dead fish.

Kim Bither made for a fun farce, leading a dance scene in "give it to me baby, uh-huh uh-huh ..." *Star Trek* was a continuing interlude that put William Shatner to shame.

Leana Monteiro did a great job as a trekkie along with her fellow shipmates.

There was a fairly good turnout for the Friday performance — one Dean and the College President himself were in attendence! The crowd was definitely pleased with the performance — not only just the fact that Stageless Players did this all themselves, but that it was actually funny!

The show made for a fun, humorous night that included some fine acting with especially good voices and impersonations.

Jim's Big Ego Makes Interesting Meal

by Josh Shear
Assistant Editor

Many dinner interviews consist of a band and a reporter sitting down to a meal paid for by the newspaper, magazine, or radio station.

The reporter rattles off questions, scribbles down answers, and laughs politely at an occasional joke. This was not the case with Jim's Big Ego.

The folk/pop trio from Somerville had just played for about a dozen people in the Bear's Den. While not the smallest crowd they'd ever played to, it certainly wasn't the biggest, either.

Frontman Jim Infantino spoke for a couple of minutes after the show; the Midwest tour went well, but Wisconsin was "really weird." They'll be recording a new album over the summer to be released next fall, and they're working on a video as well.

The big question of the night was why Infantino had been nominated for a songwriter's award at the Boston Music Awards for the band's arrangement of Paul Simon's "Feelin' Groovy," mixed with Doug E. Fresh and Slick Rick's "La Di Da Di" and four of Infantino's own lines.

He laughed and said, "I kind of talked them out of it, actually. I was on the phone with the awards people, and I asked if they could attribute the arrangement to the band, since the CD listed it that way, and I really didn't write the song."

Jim's Big Ego

The person on the other end of the telephone had said he needed to check on that, and when he got back to Infantino, he said, "Sorry, we had to pull the nomination. I recognized the song when I heard it."

Infantino said he wondered if they had listened to the song before nominating him. "Paul Simon?" he said sarcastically, "who the hell is he?"

Dinner was at the Rock Cafe, and the evening was highlighted with little but humor.

As numbers were called from the snack bar, Jason Schneider, the band's manager, inserted his own little Beatles joke. "I wonder what happens when they call number nine. Do they ever get the urge to just —"

"Number nine," came the voice from the microphone, but only once.

Most of the meal was spent on a new project the band has going on: plots for pornographic movies, to be worked into a song. The tune had been performed several times, including earlier in the day. Infantino had been brave enough to take tapioca pudding from the refrigerator, and that served as amusement enough for a family newspaper.

Wherever Jim's Big Ego ends up in the next few years, there is sure to be humor involved. Whether it's playing "Guess-the-T-Stop" or singing songs about dysfunctinnal relationships involving women being abducted by aliens or being "kinda gross, I mean...really disgusting," or about the ever-present "Porno Plot," the band will probably always be a staple of Boston-area music, and fans everywhere will be able to anxiously await the next coming of the band.

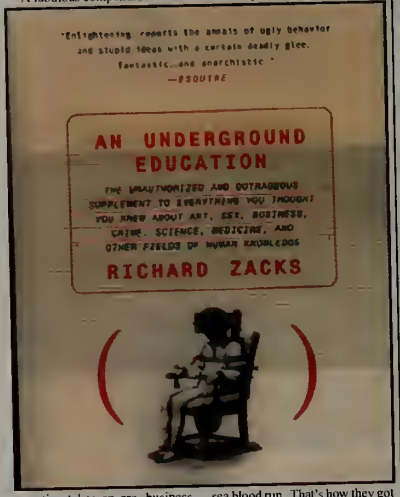
New Paperback Release Takes Readers to Academic Underworld

Press Release

Uncommon knowledge — the subversive, the contrarian, the suppressed, and the bizarre — makes the truly well-rounded "intellectual."

Richard Zacks, autodidactic extraordinaire, has unloused his admittedly strange mind and astonishing research abilities upon the entire spectrum of human knowledge, ferreting out fascinating facts, stories, photographs, and images guaranteed to make reader laugh, gasp in wonder, and occasionally shudder at the depths of human depravity.

A fabulous compendium of alternative takes on are, business, crime, science, medicine, sex, and many other facets of human experience. *An Underground Education* has proved irresistible to readers everywhere, from history buffs and trivia nuts to curious grandmothers and precocious kids.



"Knowledge does not have to be serious," asserts Zacks in his outrageously uncensored book. Zacks shows is the underside of history, revealing the real stories behind everything we thought we knew about science, art, crime, medicine, and other fields of human knowledge, supplementing our schoolbook educations with the unauthorized and thoroughly researched account of how things really happened.

From the history of female serial killers and the laws against bestiality to the invention of the bra and the evolution of women's underwear, this book will shock your sensibilities and astound your curiosity.

Few of us know that the theory behind Charles Darwin's famous Origin of Species had actually already been posited much earlier in Darwin's career by the 24-year old Alfred Russel Wallace.

And though we've glamorized the legend of killers Bonnie and Clyde with the help of Faye Dunaway and Warren Beatty, the real story tells a different tale. Clyde was known to be a "homicidal homosexual who preferred men ever since his reformatory days," and according to one of their gang members, the infamous couple were not heroes to the poor at all, but just "loved to kill people, sea blood run. That's how they got their kicks. They were dirty people. Her breath was awful and Clyde never took a bath."

The book also includes details about sexually explicit love letters from James Joyce to his wife Nora, written while he was away in Dublin — racier than any passage of *Ulysses*.

The facts in this book range from the delightful to the perverse to the truly disturbing. Filled with stories about the origin of underwear, bestiality, female serial killers, and poor royal hygiene, *An Underground Education* will certainly become a front-list phenomenon and a hacklist classic.

Zachs proves that the best kind of knowledge is uncommon knowledge, and he offers up a feast of it here in this fantastically illustrated compendium of the bizarre, absurd, and outrageous truths behind what we've always accepted as fact.

Star Wars Hype Driven by Nostalgia

by Wayne Barr
Editor

Twelve more days until the release of *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace*. Twelve more days of cinematic anticipation and fluffy media tidbits. Twelve more days of promotional hype and hysteria, music videos and movie trailers, action figures and celebrity interviews. Twenty-two years after *A New Hope*, some fans are already in line, camping out in front of multiplex theaters to be among the first to see this first installment of George Lucas' space cowboy odyssey.

The current *Stars Wars* phenomena is a curious one. The original *Star Wars*, after all, was a rather bad movie. Mark Hamill and Harrison Ford both overplay their roles; R2D2's histrionics are absurd and annoying; the musical score is bombastic, too loud, intruding on the dialogue and drowning out the action. James Earl Jones' timing is off — his Darth Vader speaks too rapidly, often without modulation. The movie's final scene, in which Hans Solo and Luke Skywalker receive medals of valor from Carrie Fisher's Princess Leah while an intergalactic rebellion cheers them on, is its own spoof.

The Empire Strikes Back was darker, more sinister — the best of the trilogy — but *Return of the Jedi* lapsed into more coy cuteness, particularly with the ever-cuddly Ewoks. The movies are prime material for *Mystery Science Theater 3000*; Mel Brooks realized the potential for parody in *Space Balls*.

But this is all besides the point. *Of course* the original *Star Wars* movies are corny; *of course* they are the very pulp of pop culture.

Twenty years ago, however, every boy in my neighborhood took turns playing Jedi Knights and Imperial Troopers the way our grandparents played Cowboys and Indians. Our plastic baseball hats were light sabers, our bikes were E-Wing Fighters, and the woods across the street made the dense jungle of Alderan. We fenced furiously, resisted the lure of the Dark Side, cultivated the Force. All we needed was a girl with cinnamon buns on the sides of her head to complete the fantasy.

(c) 1997 Twentieth Century Fox

It doesn't matter that the *Star Wars* movies are melodramatic, badly acted, less than art — our four- and five-year-old minds were not as critical as our imaginations were generous.

The movies gave us some of our first lessons in morality, too: the Dark Side was evil, alluring, powerful, seductive, and corruptive all at once. No character was wholly good: a tempted Skywalker hesitates before falling down the core of Cloud City; a torn Billy Dee Williams betrays and rescues his friends. No one is irremediably evil, either: even for Vader there is redemption.

The Phantom Menace, for many, is more a return to those bygone days than it is a film. The big questions will finally be answered. Exactly how did Annikan Skywalker become Darth Vader? Who is the haggard, ragged-cloaked emperor? How important is Jabba the Hut? What happened to Luke and Leah's mother?

Forget the special effects, the digital wonder, the elaborate sets and costume design. *Star Wars* reminds us what it was like to be children, to dream, to be utterly engulfed by imagination — imagination unhampered by aesthetic refinement.

In the twelve days left before its release, it is pointless to speculate whether the prequel will be good or not. Even if *The Phantom Menace* is a bad movie, it will be great.

Walks Raise Money for Shelters

by Josh Sheer
Assistant Editor

Forty thousand people started from the Boston Common and walked through Brookline, Newton Centre, and Cambridge before returning to the Commun on Sunday. The crowd raised $3 million to aid food shelters in Massachusetts. Walks across the country raised a total of nearly $40 million.

We were very impressed with how perfect a day it was for walking, and as we approached the ten-mile mark, Zach and I both agreed that we felt as though we had walked about ten miles, but our legs weren't yelling at us yet, and neither were our bellies.

The hardest part of the walk followed. For the better (or worst, more accurately) part of the next three miles, we walked on a wide street with no trees and no breeze.

We sucked down some carrot juice and plodded along, finally reaching the banks of the Charles River, with its murky waters as dank and dirty as ever.

At nearly 19 miles into our excursion, we passed Cheers for the second time (the first time was about a mile into the walk), and we were on the home stretch.

After we hit the ninth checkpoint, the last one before the finish line, we started to run to relieve the pain of walking. We made it about a quarter mile, then walked another bit before deciding to run the rest of the way.

We congratulated each other on another successfully completed walk, and spent the next five minutes looking for someone with a watch to check our time. We made it in 5:10 — not bad.

Men's Tennis Ends Successful Season

by Kevin Hessett
Staff Writer

The Western New England College Tennis team ended their season on Saturday, losing to a strong squad from Johnson & Wales College by a score of 2-7. Despite the loss, the team finished with a strong record of 9-4.

The tone was set from the very first match as WNEC won a thriller at Gordon College with a score of 5-4. From there, the team rolled on with a 9-0 shutout over Wentworth Institute of Technology before losing a tough match at Nichols College.

The team would then win four of the next five matches. Against Western Connecticut State, the team won 6-3, taking four singles matches and two doubles. Against Curry College, the team again won 6-3, this time winning five singles and one doubles match.

The score was a lot closer against UMASS-Boston. After falling behind 1-2 following the doubles, the team finished strong to win four of the six singles matches to take a 5-4 victory. Following that match, the team demolished Becker College 8-1, and then celebrated with friends and family with a nice cookout.

After losing to local rival Springfield College, the team won three straight before losing to Johnson & Wales in their last match. The three victories included a 9-0 shutout of another other local rival, American International College, another 8-1 victory in a return match versus Becker College, and a 9-0 shutout over Albertus Magnus College in the final home match of the season.

Top individual performers this season included sophomore Bryan Hanson with an 11-1 record at first singles and 12-1 at first doubles with partner, senior Paul Doyon, who had a record of 8-5 at singles. Freshman Mike Raymond compiled a record of 10-3 at second singles and a doubles record of 7-2 along with his partner, sophomore Andy Sheridan. Freshman Katrina Kosztala had a great season with a record of 7-5 at singles and a 2-0 record at doubles with partner, junior Kevin Roy. Freshman Will Delahanty had a strong second half of the season, winning five out of his last seven matches.

The Western New England Tennis Team in action

Things look bright for the future of the WNEC Tennis program. Next fall, the women's team will start play as one of two new teams at this school along with Cross-Country. Freshmen Kosztala and Jamie DeMaria will take the experience gained on the team this year to lead the women's team. There has been a lot of interest in this team and they should do very well next year.

The men's team will lose just one senior for next season. Paul Doyon has been an integral part of this team for the last four years and his leadership and skill will be missed. The team will still be very strong and should be one of the favorites to win the Greater Northeast Athletic Conference title next year and for years to come.

Two New Teams Scheduled for Fall Season

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

Western New England College will enter the millennium in style by adding men and women's cross-country and women's tennis to the sports schedule.

The new teams come as a result of student interests and in the process help the athletic program look more well-rounded. As a result, Western New England College may appear even more enticing to people whom are considering enrolling at this institution.

Former All-American Miler Bryan Brown will be the head coach of the cross-country team, while former Boston Marathon runner Carl Fetteroll will be the assistant coach.

> *"The new teams come as a result of student interests ..."*

Brown and Fetteroll will share their expertise with the squad in hopes of starting the team off on the right foot (as opposed to the left foot).

Currently, eight men and eight women have decided to make the commitment to play on the squad next year.

The co-ed squad, which will compete in at least five meets, may have a cross-country track constructed close to the baseball field by next fall.

Men's tennis coach Richard Yam may do double duty next year if he is named the women's tennis coach.

At least ten females are interested in playing on the team, including Katrina Kosztala and Jamie DeMaria who currently play on the men's team.

More information will be available regarding the new sports teams in the near future.

Women's Softball, Lacrosse Teams Finish with Victories

by David Weinberg
Sports Editor

The Golden Bears kicked off their softball home opener by defeating Nichols College 9-5. The team was led by freshman Kate Farry (Pittsfield, MA) and senior Jaime Barras (Avon, NJ) who both had 3 RBI for the victors. The 5-8 Golden Bears compiled 13 hits in the game and scored nine runs in the first two innings to hold on to the win.

Farry was flawless at bat, going 3-3 with a walk. Barras had two hits, and freshman Nicole Norwood (Eastwood, MA) also had a pair of hits. Freshman Jeni Pernaa (Ashby, MA) improved her record to 2-2 as she picked up the win for the Golden Bears.

Junior Cara Connors led Nichols College with three hits and junior Aida Hurley had an RBI double as well as another hit in a losing effort.

Scoring By Inning:

Nichols 2 0 0 0 1 1 1
Totals: 5 10 1
WNEC 4 5 0 0 0 0 x
Totals: 9 13 1

***

The women's lacrosse team fell victim to Endicott College in their third home game of the young season, 6-4.

The Golden Bears, who are now 2-3, were led by Senior Kristin Kitselman (Riverside, CT) who scored two goals, including one that tied the game at 3-3, while sophomore goalie Kathleen Reed made ten saves.

Freshman Carolyn Greenwood scored two goals and junior goalie Allison Cummings made ten saves in the victory for Endicott.

Scoring:

Endicott 3 3
Total: 6
WNEC 2 2
Total: 4
WNEC Goals: Kristin Kitselman, Karen Gilbert, Katie Burke

Baseball Team Eyes Playoff Bid

by Tom Emberley
Contributing Writer

To conclude last season, the Western New England College baseball team lost in the semi-finals of its last Constitution Athletic Conference appearance, just two games shy of reaching a goal of theirs: a post-season berth.

This season could be a little different, as the Golden Bears, 18-10 at press time, are within close striking range of attaining an ECAC Tournament bid.

Playing an independent schedule this year, WNEC does not have the luxury of playing in a conference tournament, where most champions receive an automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament. After sizable losses to some top-notch teams (a 28-1 pasting by defending National Champion Eastern Connecticut State and a 10-3 shellacking by nationally-ranked Amherst), and NCAA bid seems out of reach this time around for WNEC.

However, with five games remaining in their season, an ECAC bid is not out of the question if WNEC, currently riding a four-game winning streak, can come away victorious in the majority of those.

"We would (have a shot at a bid), because we were able to upset some state schools (i.e. Fitchburg, Westfield), and because we beat Trinity (ranked #5 in the country at the time WNEC beat them)," claimed sophomore first baseman Dave Anton, who had .353 batting average through Saturday's games, good for fourth on the team.

As previously mentioned, although the Golden Bears have had their share of triumphs, they have also had their share of defeats. For example, not once this Spring have WNEC's nine won more than four games in a row.

Further, looking down the list of WNEC scores, you could find a 28-1 loss one day, and then a WNEC victory the next day by almost a reversed score (20-0, against Daniel Webster). Much like a roller coaster, this season has been full of inconsistencies.

"Fielding has hurt us a hit. There has been a lot of errors, both physically and mentally. It seems like with such a young team (nine freshmen and 12 sophomores on the roster), the boys are getting a little nervous when the ball is hit to them. As a result, some bobbles have occurred," Anton continued.

Another area where WNEC has been good, but not great, is in the pitching department.

The WNEC staff has an ERA of 5.40, and has walked almost s many batters (116) as it has struck out (141). There have been some bright spots, such as senior Pat Sheehan (3-0, 3.45 ERA), sophomore Kyle Snurkowski (4-2, 4.58), and senior Paul Heering (3-3, 5.45).

While this year's pitching staff may not match up to the great staffs that the Atlanta Braves consistently have, the offense could make a very good case. As a whole, the team has scored just under eight runs per game (216 through 26 contests), and is batting .310. With an on-base percentage of over .400, it is likely that WNEC will have many opportunities to score some runs in its final games.

As for some notable individual performances, shortstop Andy Jolicouer leads the team in batting average, hitting at a .404 clip. Jolicouer also is tied with senior catcher Todd Watson for the on-base percentage lead at .486. Watson leads the team in numerous categories, including hits (36), RBI (31), and stolen bases (11). Sophomore outfielder Derek Higgins leads the team in walks (19), slugging percentage (.643), and home runs (5).

Even if WNEC can't earn an ECAC berth through its play over the next five games (Framingham State, Worcester State, two against Babson and a make-up game with Anna Maria), this has certainly been a productive season for the Golden Bears, and there are a lot of positive signs that point toward a bright future for the baseball team as well.

"We are a young team, and we are beating state schools, and big-name schools like Trinity," commented Anton when asked about the future. "Youth is on our side.

"With one or two more pitchers, we will be virtually unbeatable. And the new conference (Great Northeast Athletic) we are entering is a conference that we should win. And by winning the conference tournament, you get an automatic NCAA bid. We will be there within the next two years; I swear by it."

Students can look forward to seeing the baseball team play again next season.

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Men's Experience Gives Kitselman the Edge

Senior Lacrosse Co-Captain Competes Academically and Athletically

by Tim Stack
Contributing Writer

It was Kristin Kitselman's two years of collegiate experience in men's lacrosse prior to her transfer to WNEC that gives her the edge over everybody.

Athlete Profile

Kitselman attended Western Connecticut State University, where she played men's lacrosse. While doing the face-off, Kristin acquired an aggressiveness and competitiveness that most athletes do not have.

This experience has given Kristen a "that ball is mine" style of play, which is incomparable to most of the girls on the WNEC team and most of the girls she plays against.

"It was a terrific learning experience," says Kitselman. During those seasons at WCSU, Kristin also accomplished her academic goal and made Dean's List.

Kristin is a senior Communications major from Greenwich, CT. She started playing competitive lacrosse in seventh grade. As a senior, she has eight years of experience in women's lacrosse and two years in men's lacrosse. She plays center and attack wing for the WNEC women's team.

Kitselman is co-captain of this year's team and has the ability to carry the team with her offensive skills. Some of her noteworthy statistics from last Spring's season are her team-leading numbers in scoring, assists, and points.

She has developed a behind-the-head shot that she feels will be extremely effective; however, Kristin feels that "the shot unfortunately might be illegal to use. We'll find out at our first tournament."

Teammate Meg Del Vacchio said, "Kristin is a very hard worker at practice, day in and day out and possesses a competitive attitude which would make her an exceptional captain."

Danielle Valente also commented on Kitselman's ability: "Klitz is one of the best players and is looked up to by all of the newcomers."

It only seemed normal for Kristin to grow up and play lacrosse after watching an older brother have a very successful career. He was a First Team All-Conference defenseman and captain at Lynchburg University.

"It was great to watch him control the game and dominate it at the same time," commented Kristin about her brother.

Kristin is playing for a Golden Bears Team that is young, talented, and also has a new coach. The new coach, Heather Somers, played four years of varsity lacrosse and graduated from Springfield College.

Kristin feels very confident with this year's team and feels that "the newcomers are athletically inclined and have tremendous potential."

Kitselman stated, "I realize that I must work hard every day in order to get better and stay successful. I know that I'm looked up to by some of the newcomers for my hard work and skill level, so I know I can't let up and must set the right example."

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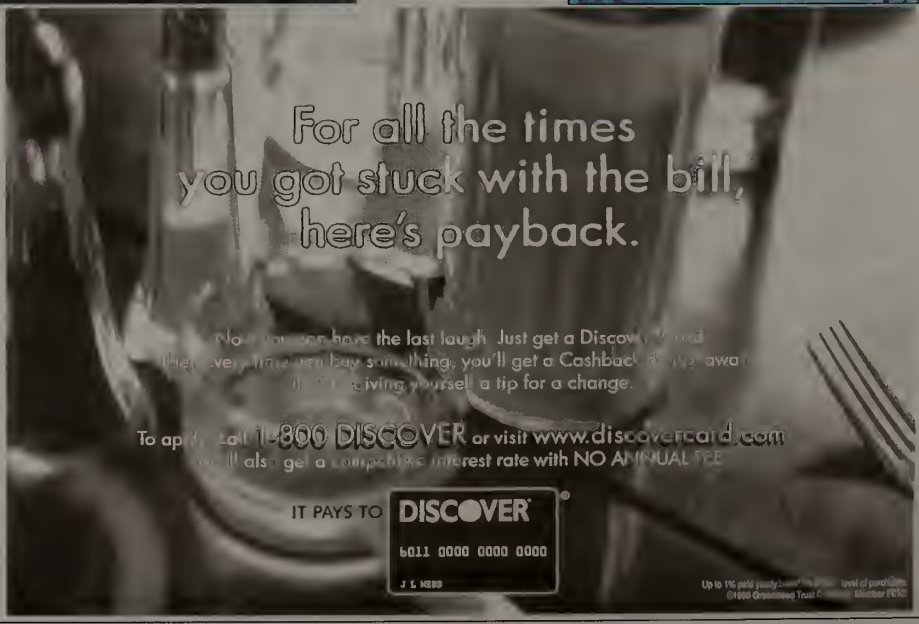

THE WESTERNER

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CAMPUS & LOCAL NEWS

At the end of January, winter finally hits New England

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ROVING REPORTER

Students have had a whole semester of life at LaRiviere. So what's it like there, anyway?

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EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

One student argues that the issue of diversity is not being taken seriously enough at WNEC

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

"Nature's Images: Three Perspectives" opens in the Art Gallery

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SPORTS

Men's basketball team sets new records

p. 11

Saratoga Brings Charrette to WNEC

by Weyne Berr
Assistant Editor

On January 25 and 26, the mall area of the Campus Center was transformed into a gallery of maps, overlays, suggestion sheets, and tables overflowing with dozens of colored markers. Administrators, faculty, staff and students drifted from table to table, asking questions, examining proposals, and making suggestions about how to improve the campus of Western New England College.

And on the tips of everyone's tongue was an odd, new word: "Charrette."

The word was new to Michael Duncan, Director of Facilities Management, when he first heard it several months ago. A Charrette is an opportunity for people to get together, see what is being considered, and make suggestions, Duncan explained.

It was also an opportunity for community members to draw up their own "wish lists" of changes and additions they would like to see on campus. "We wanted everyone to just dream," he said.

According to Duncan, who is also Chairman of the Facilities Planning Committee, the Charrette was an important step in planning a new "master plan" for the design and layout

See **CHARRETTE**, page 3

Michael Duncon speaks at the Chorrette in the Campus Center

Poisoning Investigation Continues

by James Russell
Editor

On Saturday, December 18, an unknown individual poisoned a water cooler in the Law School with potassium cyanide. As the Law School newspaper *Lex Brevis* reported, "Of the seven persons who drank from the cooler, on Dec. 18th, one was hospitalized and six became seriously ill."

Students who drank the water describe it as tasting like ammonia, then feeling a fainting sensation. The poisoning only occurred at the one cooler in the Law School building; other coolers and the undergraduate school were unaffected.

The water was sent to a local laboratory to be tested and three days later was confirmed to contain potassium cyanide, a deadly poison.

Shortly thereafter, campus-wide mailings were sent to inform the College as to what happened and request that, if anyone had water samples from that day, they should immediately be brought in for testing.

Potassium cyanide is a chemical compound of combined nitrogen and carbon. When mixed with potassium it forms a simple granular salt. Ingesting cyanide can cause damage to the brain, lungs and heart, leading to rapid coma or death. Cyanide has a variety of legitimate uses and is easily acquired, being used in industrial cleaning, dyes, chemistry, and photography. Public Safety says that it is extremely unlikely

See **POISON**, page 4

The Law School, where poisoned watercoolers were found

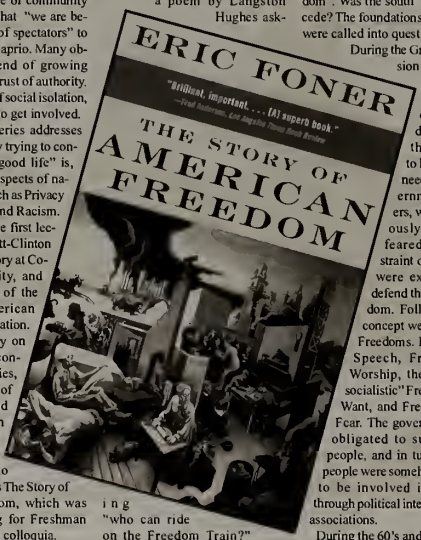
Lecture Series Commences

Dr. Eric Foner Speaks to College Community

by James Russsll
Editor

The Year 2000 lecture series started last week with a lecture on the changing definitions of Freedom by Dr. Eric Foner. This series, entitled "Forging the Good Life: Rebuilding Community in the 21st Century" deals with issues of public participation that have recently concerned social commentators. Many observers report that in America the sense of community has fallen apart, that "we are becoming a nation of spectators" to quote President Caprio. Many observers see a trend of growing cynicism and distrust of authority. a growing sense of social isolation, and a reluctance to get involved.

This lecture series addresses these problems by trying to conjecture what a "good life" is, through various aspects of national concern, such as Privacy and the Internet and Racism. Dr. Eric Foner, the first lecturer, is the Dewitt-Clinton Professor of History at Columbia University, and acting president of the prestigious American Historical Association. He is an authority on slavery and Reconstruction Era studies, as well as author of many books, and has appeared in documentaries. His book that is most familiar to WNEC students is The Story of American Freedom, which was assigned reading for Freshman Focus groups and colloquia.



Foner delivered two lectures, at two and seven o'clock. The first took place in the Rivers gym hall and was fully attended; though many of the students were only there because of a class requirement. President Caprio began the event by introducing Foner and the Lecture series. He saw the lecture series as having a special purpose, to bring together members of the community to facilitate dialogue on important issues.

Dr. Foner began his speech by speaking about The Freedom Train, a travelling exhibit of artifacts and documents of American Freedom, such as the Declaration of Independence, which traveled across the country during the forties. The aim of this effort was to contrast what the creators of the train saw as American Freedom in contrast with fascist tyranny. However as this train traveled around the country with its message of universal freedom is encountered some of the contradictions of Freedom. When the train stopped in the Deep South, African-Americans were not allowed to see the train in some cities, and there was no mention of slavery.

This irony became symbolic of how little freedom had actually spread in America. Foner quoted a poem by Langston Hughes asking "who can ride on the Freedom Train?" "The definitions of Freedom held by the creators of the Train and the Americans who saw it were different", said Foner. So what then the true definition of Freedom? This question formed the center of his thesis in the speech. Instead of a static ideal that people reach for, Foner contended, the definition of freedom has changed throughout our history. It is also an expanding definition, as the blanket of Freedom has spread to people of color, gays, and other repressed groups.

For America, a nation founded on a struggle for Freedom, we have difficulty on agreeing to what that freedom is. The original definition, said Foner, was "the right to be free of a king and to farm in peace". This definition soon changed, into the concept of Americans as an inherently Free People, though who "Americans" are is reflected in a colonial immigration law admitting only "free white"persons. African and Native Americans were not considered "Americans" and so had no right to be free. Civil War and Reconstruction Era, Foner's area of specialty, was a time when all the definitions of freedom were called into question. If a slave owner had the "freedom" to own another human being, did that usurp the slaves right to "freedom". Was the south "free" to secede? The foundations of freedom were called into question.

During the Great Depression and the ensuing New Deal, freedom was defined as the freedom to live without need, and government powers, which previously had been feared as a restraint on freedom, were expanded to defend this new freedom. Following that concept were the Four Freedoms. Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, the "vaguely socialistic" Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear. The government was obligated to support the people, and in turn the free people were somehow obliged to be involved in society, through political interest or civic associations.

During the 60's and 70's a new definition of freedom emerged, the freedom to not be involved, to drop out of the system. This was combined with a growing public cynicism that curtailed people's involvement and increased their mistrust. Also in this time period, freedom gained the new meaning of "freedom to consume as much as you want." He told a humorous story where Nixon, when asked by a Russian ambassador how people were free in America, said that "our roads are full of cars and we can buy refrigerators in different colors!" Freedom as consumerism. During these times who was part of the "Freedom Train" was also expanded as well, as the civil rights movement brought freedoms to people of color, the feminist movement to women, and the gay rights movement to homosexuals.

Foner then went on to the Reagan era of neo-conservatism, when the definition of freedom again took an about-face. Previously freedom was defined as freedom from want with the government providing, but Reagan defined it as freedom from government control. Reagan's definition is very much our contemporary definition during the Clinton administration, with earlier Nixon-era influences. Many Americans see todayfreedom as a mixture of Reagan's concepts with the earlier influences of the right to consume and not be involved. It is thus that we arrive at our modern paradoxical situation. Only a generation ago activists fought to give new groups of Americans the right to vote, but now only a very small amount do, especially among young people. In an era of unprecedented freedom, very few people take advantage of the opportunities that this freedom grants them.

Another important contrast that Foner raised is the contradiction between individual and group freedoms, which relates to the recurring debate, is freedom the right to freedom from want with the government providing for us, or is it the freedom for the rights of the individual from control on the group. This has also been the continuing debate of the 20th century; free markets vs. socialized ones.

In are when we are freer than we have ever been, why are we so uninvolved? does it feel like all the struggles have been fought? These rhetorical questions were posed, but left unanswered, by Foner in his first lecture.

After his speech was concluded Foner opened the floor to questions, at which point a mass exodus to the door began, as students checked in with their teachers and then left in haste. Some of the professors tried to rally students to get a dialogue going, but much of the group had already left. This reaction seemed to take aback both Foner himself and the lecture staff.

See FONER, page 11

Colloquia Linked to Lecture Series

by Melenie Gurs
Staff Writer

The colloquia, one-credit discussion course, have been offered at WNEC for the last twenty years. This year, the courses have become the incentive for the Lecture 2000 Series. Professor Michael Meeropol has brought the colloquia courses out of the classroom and into a panel and lecture forum. What was once known as lecture day is now a lecture series. This will be a four-day event covering various topics such as racial issues, censorship, money management, community, and more.

Each colloquia course deals with a different topic and has different speakers. They are not only open to the enrolled students but to the entire campus community and the public. Each course was designed with the intent of attracting attendants with various interests and concerns. For example, a course entitled 'Managing Your Twenties' was started with seniors in mind. It is an instructional course to help seniors cope with life after graduation. This is just one of the offered courses.

Specifically, some other courses were chosen based on their controversial nature. One class being offered deals with attempting to build a group-oriented community in a twenty-first century that is full of individualistic people. Another course deals with the fact that although we are a nation of mostly immigrants, equality is lacking and feelings of superiority reign. This course is modeled after the National Dialogue on Race, which was instituted by the President of the United States. Speakers about this topic will discuss issues such as hate speech and racial profiling.

Professor Meeropol said that, "Our goal is, and I can't stress this enough, to make this something that's way beyond the classroom. That people who are not in any of the courses will be interested in thinking about and talking about, accessing the websites, engaging in the discussions, talking to their friends over lunch, going, even if they're not registered to the course, to one of these lectures just to see what somebody has to say."

Faculty and staff members encourage all students to participate in and attend this lecture series. They are open to everyone and involvement now will lead to more lectures series in the future. There is also a discussion website called Lecture 2000 where students can go to exchange ideas regarding the topics. All can attend and anyone can subscribe. To subscribe, students should simply send an e-mail indicating that they want to subscribe to Lecture 2000 to majordomo@wnec.edu. Each course has its own Manhattan site with on-going discussion groups for interested students.

Charrette Comes to WNEC

CHARRETTE, from page 1
of the College, and part of a process that began several months ago when the committee was formed.

Why does WNEC need a new master plan? "Because it is growing and changing, we know we don't want to be this size forever," Duncan said. He added that what worked for the College in the past, when it owned less property and was a smaller institution, does not necessarily work now. Currently, there are approximately 215 acres of undeveloped land with which to work.

It was early after his arrival last May that Duncan helped form the Facilities Planning Committee, which is represented by people from the board of trustees, athletic department, academic departments, faculty, and student body. Then, "because we're not the experts," Duncan helped find Saratoga, a facilities planning consultant that suggested the Charrette.

Duncan expects that some of the best ideas for the Committee's master plan will come from the Charrette. The comments, suggestions, and responses, which "filled up about three cars," were hauled off by representatives from Saratoga, who will cull from them a shorter list of ideas that the Facilities Planning Committee can use.

At the Charrette itself, the Committee offered for consideration two plans.

One plan proposed moving certain departments and offices, the other constructing additional buildings in certain areas. According to Duncan, both plans sparked a lot of discussion.

"People seemed to have distinct opinions. Either they liked it or they hated it ... then they would offer counter-suggestions." These suggestions, he added, might be implemented—if they make sense.

Meanwhile, there were many campus issues that were addressed. Among them were the following:

— The College has several entrances, but no designated main entrance.

— Gateway is too far removed from the main campus; the crosswalks are unsafe.

— There needs to be more classroom space.

— The College should build an ice rink.

— The athletic fields should be moved together, and an athletic facility built, so the College can develop its intramural program.

— Parking is a problem.

— The law school needs a bigger library, and law students should have their own housing.

Issues such as classroom space and parking are more complex than they initially appear, Duncan pointed out; technically, there is adequate parking, and depending on how classrooms are being used and when, classroom space might not be the most immediate problem facing the Facilities Planning Committee. Some suggestions reflected individual "wish lists" more than the College's actual needs, and may not fit into the master plan.

But Duncan emphasized that the plan must always be flexible, able to accommodate the "growing pains" of the College; too rigid a plan would be counterproductive. The Charrette was held in this spirit.

"Just because people see something on the wall doesn't mean it's going to be done that way ... it's more of a 'what if' kind of thing," Duncan said.

Duncan also emphasized that the Charrette was an early step in the planning process, and "not a final big activity."

He is currently waiting for Saratoga to finish processing the information gathered over the two days, and plans to send a general correspondence to the College community in the near future.

Coach Theulen talks with a representative from Saratoga

Time to Nominate Favorite Professors!

Do you know an excellent faculty member?

Here's your chance to nominate that faculty member for the 2000 Excellence in Teaching Award.

The 2000 Teaching Excellence Committee invites you to nominate a member of the faculty who best exemplifies excellence in teaching and campus leadership.

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The committee will consider all nominations. However, a faculty member cannot receive this award more than once, so the following is a list of names of faculty members who have received the award to date: Henry J. Bazan, Peter W. Hess, Ann Kizanis, Dennis J. Kolodziejski, Dennis M. Luciann, James V. Masi, Walter M. Presz, Jr., Marilyn K. Pelusi, Richard Pelosi, Ted Johnson-South, and Richard R. Veronesi.

The award will be presented to this year's recipient at the Student Recognition Ceremony to be held on Sunday, April 30, 2000.

The winner will receive $1000 from the College, and his or her name will be added to the plaque in the library that displays the names of all past recipients of the award.

Indicate your nomination and provide the committee with a written statement supporting your nomination. Please provide your name and year of graduation.

Consider the areas listed above as you prepare your statement.

Nominations not accompanied by a written statement cannot be considered by the committee.

You can send nominations via campus mail to Marie Irzyk at the Office of the President, e-mail them to mirzykl@wnec.edu or fax them to 796-2149.

Extra! Extra!

Students Receive Free Newspapers

by Sara Mosier
Staff Writer

Western New England College has agreed to fund a new program in coordination with *USA Today* to supply *USA Today*, the *Springfield Union-News*, and the *Boston Globe* free to students at locations throughout the campus.

Last semester, *USA Today* ran a pilot program that allowed students in the quad residence halls, Windham Hall, and the LaRiviere Center to have access to free newspapers on a daily basis.

Program co-coordinator Kristen Calegari worked in coordination with *USA Today* to poll students as to their reaction to the pilot program. "Students actually approached me praising the program and pushing for its continuation," she said.

"The newspapers have helped me become more aware of what is going on in the world ... since they are free, they are more convenient as well," states Joel Dulso, a Berkshire resident.

Most students said that they would be more apt to keep up with current events if they had newspapers readily available. This program facilitates this for the students.

Dean Diruzza eagerly supports this program and stresses the positive impact that reading the newspaper can have in one's life outside of the classroom.

Diruzza stated, "It is one more attempt to integrate learning beyond the classroom and help students keep up to date with current events. He also says that the hope is that students will see the newspapers and be encouraged to read them, as they are free and readily available.

USA Today has developed a figure, stating that it would cost each student ten dollars per semester to receive all three newspapers Monday through Friday. Funding has been made available from the Learning Beyond the Classroom budget, the Residence Hall Association, Residence Life, and Student Senate, all of whom are proud to sponsor this new program.

Student Senate President Ryan Courtemanche praises the program as well. "Keeping up on current events is an important part of education. Student Senate supports the program because these resources enable every student who desires to take part in the program to truly utilize their full educational potential," he said.

These locations will have the newspapers available and will include the Gateway laundry room, the LaRiviere Center, the Rock Cafe, and Dining Room A. These locations were chosen because they have the most traffic by students on a daily basis.

The stands in the designated areas will also be monitored to see the number of papers being taken and if they are good areas for most students to receive their free copies.

Discarding the newspapers in the proper way is also a concern to the students and faculty. As a result, the stands will be situated in places where recycling bins can be placed nearby.

With next semester steadily approaching, there will be much emphasis on the successfulness of this program.

If the students still continue to give positive feedback, there will be consideration of continuing funding for the program for future years.

THE WESTERNER

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Poison Scare Raises Controversy

POISON, from page 1

this cyanide did not come from WNEC's chemistry lab or any other WNEC operations. Campus safety has contacted Poland Springs, the maker of the cooler, and found that the water was not contaminated at the factory — the poison was deliberately put into the cooler, at the Law School, by a malicious individual.

The Westerner spoke with Chief Barnes, head of Public Safety, to find out more information about the case. This poisoning was not the first security incident in recent times at the Law School. Last year unknown persons came in and scratched swastika-like symbols on the windows of the school. After that vandalism it was pledged that security at the law school would be increased.

Yet despite this increased security, the poisoning still happened. Some students expressed resentment that there was a security camera in the school, but it was not in the area of the cooler and was out of order for lack of wiring. Chief Barnes said that "if the camera had been working it would not have prevented the crime or identified the individual."

In reaction to this event new security measures have been proposed by members of public safety, and are currently under discussion and being implemented.

Some of the ideas are card access only to the law school and facilities, shortened hours, locked doors and hallways, secure classrooms, and not allowing students in after hours without permission. After closing, public safety and student patrol will make periodic patrols throughout the building.

In the meanwhile a public safety officer has been stationed. Some students are concerned that security will overreact and turn the law school into an overly secure building, which is inconvenient for students and a turnoff for prospective applicants. "We are struggling with the balance of an appropriate level of security" said Barnes. "We do not want to create a locked-down environment." Desires to restrict who can enter the building are also hampered by the legal requirement that the law library remain open to the public for legal research.

WNEC Public Safety has allied with other law enforcement agencies to investigate this crime. The coolers were tested by the FDA. The Springfield Police Department and the FBI are also involved in the investigation. The FBI was brought in for their opinion as to whether the poisoning was an act of terrorism, and decided that it was not.

The FBI also assisted with looking at profiles of suspects. The Springfield Police Department is working in conjunction with the FDA investigative team. Several suspects have been declared. "If sufficient evidence is discovered, then they may be charged with two charges, attempted murder and consumer product tampering" said Chief Barnes. There is no evidence as yet of a motive for this malevolent act.

For information on how the poisoning was perceived by the college, community, and media, *The Westerner* spoke with Jane Albert, Vice President of Advancement and Marketing for the college.

The Westerner was referred to Albert from the President's office, which described her as "the one voice speaking for the College on this issue, and what Mrs. Albert says reflects the college's opinions."

Albert described the college's dissemination of information. "We don't write press releases. We know that the word will get out. Our philosophy is that we will respond to the media." She said that the media usually hears about the story when "somebody from the College calls."

As for the media's coverage, Albert described it as "absolutely accurate, no sensationalism, with an understanding that this could happen anywhere." She even cited one article where the poisoning was referred to as a "bubbler incident."

Most of the news coverage was in the newspapers, there was also a report on the *Union-News* website masslive.com. The CNN news ticker did report "cooler poisoning at Law School" but neglected to name it as WNEC law school.

The college is familiar with how the print media report on the college's affairs because it subscribes to a number of newsclipping services, which find and fax to WNEC articles that report on the school.

Albert showed *The Westerner* a number of these faxes, which on a whole were short and tended to downplay the incident. However, these newsclippers only check papers in the surrounding local area. After the poisoning was made public the Associated Press added a story about it to the newswire, so the poisoning may have been covered in newspapers around the country, but WNEC is unaware if they did because those papers are outside the range of itsnewsclipping services.

"So far," said Albert, "there has been no negative impact on our applications," though if the general public image of WNEC has been affected, she said "things like image are impossible to quantify." Little information is available as to how this case has been dealt with legally by WNEC information such as if lawsuits have been filed is private information.

In general, legal matters are referred to Nancy Thomas, legal counsel for the College. Should the case come to court, "we will outsource a lawyer," said Albert.

Though no firm is kept on retention, WNEC's legal issues in the past have been handled by local private law firms. However, she noted that "this case may never come to trial unless there is evidence." Currently, not enough evidence has been discovered for a case.

When asked about some student's feelings that security at the law school may become too strict, Albert said that the main security measure is the use of an ID to get in. "You need an ID to get into the dorms and AHLC, and that has not caused much inconvenience," she said.

As for public access requirements to the law school she said that "the majority of people who use the law school are members of the bench and bar, and they can be granted ID cards," referring to lawyers and judges, respectively. Private citizens will have to check in at the door.

Students who need to study past closing time will need to check in with the public safety officer there. The new hours are currently under discussion.

Now, over a month after the poisoning, new details and evidence are still coming to light, but the several unnamed suspects have yet to be formally charged.

Though the coolers themselves have been removed, concerns remain as to why the cooler was poisoned, whether the law school is doing enough to protect the safety of its students, and whether those measures, once implemented, will infringe on the ability to study in the Law School.

Note: Some information in this article was contributed by Lex Brevis.

Students at Gateway Welcome Winter

After the second snowstorm of the seasons, sophomores Paul Isidoro, Jason Roso, Michael Bird, and Vincent Pisano built snowman waving at shivering passersby.

ATTENTION SENIORS

Today is the *last day* to submit your yearbook bios! Drop them off at the publications office in the Campus Center. Drop in the envelop on the door or leave on the yearbook desk.

Student Senate Update

by Ryan Courtemanche
Student Senate President

Student Senate has been hard at work this year redefining its role on campus and polishing its internal procedures. Some of our accomplishments so far this year can be found on the display board outside our office in the Campus Center, as well as on the bulletin board across from the Snack Bar. These are updated regularly and provide information about current campus issues. We are constantly striving to do our best to see that student issues are heard!

For the first time ever, we have developed a Student Senator's Handbook that outlines who we are and what we do. In an attempt to make Student Senate more of a user-friendly organization, this handbook serves as not only a resource for current Senators, but to the general population as well. It is our desire to have everyone on campus understand our different policies and procedures and work with us to constantly improve the services that we provide. Copies can be found in the Student Senate office and Student Activities.

In the past a select few people have had major problems with Student Senate. We acknowledge these problems and do not deny that they exist. We are however working extremely hard to make everyone's experience with Student Senate a positive one. It is never our intent to make someone's experience miserable. The only way that things can get better is if we work together to resolve our differences.

You can change what we are doing by bringing to our attention the issues that you feel we should be doing something about. This can be done by talking to any one of your thirty-two representatives, who are listed in the Student Handbook handed out at the beginning of the year, as well as on the bulletin board across from the Snack Bar. They are elected by students and are there to serve you! You do have a voice and your opinion does matter to us!

It is also that time of year again for Student Senate ELECTIONS! If you are interested in running for a position, petitions are available in Student Activities. If you want to learn more about a position you can contact any one of the Executive Board members or Senators at the Student Senate Office (782-1298). The following is list of important dates for people who are interested in running for a position.

March 1: Petitions are due back in Student Activities

March 7: Mandatory meeting for all candidates (place to be posted in Student Activities)

March 7 - March 27: CAMPAIGNING!!

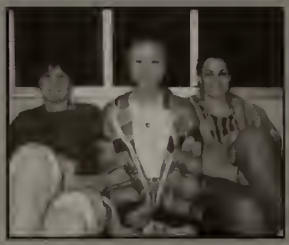
If anyone would like to talk with me more about issues surrounding students or what Student Senate can do for you, do not hesitate to call me in the office at 782-1298 or e-mail me at rcourtem@wnec.edu.

Are you having problems with you roommate? With your professors? Need a friendly word of advice? Then write to *The Westerner's* new advice columnist! Send your questions to box 1487 today!

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

Last semester, students finally moved into the LaRiviere, the new residential building on campus. What is life like in this state-of-the-art wonder of architectare? What amenities are its inhabitants enjoying? What, pray tell, can they say about life in a building where you can conceivably walk to class in you pajamas, without ever going outside? Well ...

...What Do You Like Best About LaRiviere?



"The community, the living, and the environment."
— Jaci Colby (left)

"There's more space, and the bathroom situation is better."
— Kitty Lee (center)

"The bathrooms and the privacy."
— Kathy Barton (right)

"It's bigger than Gateway and quieter."
— Eric Kemp (left)

"It's a more relaxed environment."
— Tom Chantrell (right)

"The space!"
— Jill McCaughlin (left)

"The study rooms are great."
— Charlene Humphrey(right)

"It's quiet, new, and clean."
— Brad Simon (left)

"The space!"
— Brian Keller(right)

New Faces, New Paper

As the students of WNEC have looked toward the rest of the new semester, they have also looked for the next issue of *The Westerner*, which you hold in your hands. Why is it so late, and why was *The Westerner* so conspicuously absent last semester, save for one issue? As the function of the

From the Editor

newspaper is to serve the student body, you deserve an explanation. A combination of staffing constraints and severe limitations on the time of the editorial board caused us not to devote the time to this publication that we should have. We have justly incurred a negative response, from students quizzically wondering where the newspaper is to advertising clients sending wrathful letters asking why we did not run their ads.

Well, *The Westerner* has heard this response, and is now on a fresh start for the new semester. After an interregnum of changing editors, I am now the new Editor and am in the process of learning from Wayne Barr, the former editor. So what is in store for *The Westerner*? First, we are expanding our staff with new range of writers, editors, and cartoonists, and new members and contributions of writing are always welcome! With this increased amount of copy we will soon be expanding to a larger 16-page format.

Most importantly, *The Westerner* will come out on its regular biweekly schedule, to provide current and up-to-date news about what is happening at WNEC. The college newspaper is also the voice of the students, and is wide open for discussion of important issues and controversy, whether on campus or in the community. If you feel strongly about an issue, write an editorial and submit it! *The Westerner* is also your source for what events are going on here, as well as arts & entertainment news. Contrary to popular belief, there are interesting things to do at WNEC and the Westerner will try to keep you informed about them.

After taking the editorship I started to read a lot of books on journalism. Over the Winter Break I read *Manufacturing Consent* by Noam Chomsky and Edward Herman, a book that forever changed my perspectives about the media. The authors, who are prominent political dissidents, allege that the media, instead of being a voice for and advocate of the people, is often biased towards the Powers that Be. Even in situations where the media appears to be critical of authority, it is often still subtly supportive of those in power. From being subject to the control of advertisers, to the regulation of the administration, or even through self-censorship, the media too often does not fulfill its function to serve and inform the people.

In essence, the media "manufactures consent," making people agree unanimously with what should be controversial stories. The lines between the factual news pages and the opinionated editorial pages are becoming blurred. Though it may be reduction to the absurd to apply the tenets of a book about the mainstream media to college media, I think that the pattern is the same. It is easy for a student publicaton to fall into the rut, as I observed in my high school's paper, of reporting meaningless stories, avoiding real issues, self-censoring controversy, and working as a mouthpiece for the school administration.

It is my goal that *The Westerner* never falls into that rut. We will report the truth and tackle the tough stories, whether pleasant or not. This newspaper will remain an open forum for disagreement and controversy. Though student publications are dependent on the school, our journalistic integrity will remain intact; presenting what is really happening at WNEC, not just what is shown in the promotional materials. If you, the reader, ever see *The Westerner* not doing these things, please let us know. Your contributions of articles, editorials, reviews, and letters are always welcome.

The Westerner is *your* student publication.

The deadline for the next issue is February 18. If you have any article ideas, would like to contribute an article, or would like to place an ad, call us at x1580.

Lack of Diversity a Problem at WNEC

REALITY: Racial diversity is still an issue in Western New England College.

MYTH: Western New England College is earnestly trying to do something about it.

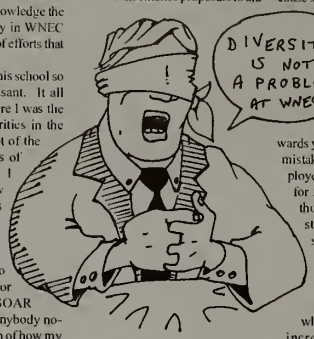
This may sound harsh, but racial diversity at WNEC seems to be an issue that is frequently talked about and very rarely acted upon. I think that once the facts are studied, anybody can acknowledge the lack of racial diversity in WNEC and the small amount of efforts that are being made.

My experience in this school so far has not been pleasant. It all started in SOAR, where I was the one of the few minorities in the program. I spent a lot of the time alone, regardless of my efforts to "fit in." I never realized how strong racial tensions could be. Talking to people was like talking to walls. It felt they were not receptive to me just because the color of my skin. I left SOAR early (I do not think anybody noticed) with the question of how my time in WNEC would be like. The predictions that I kept to myself were true.

Out of the six classes that I participated in WNEC during my first semester, none of them had fellow minority students. I would come to class and see all the seats fill up except the ones around me. I would also notice how I was left alone when the class was divided into groups. I was treated differently as opposed to equally. I tried to fool myself into thinking that these actions were subconscious, but I knew better. What was going on at WNEC? This was not the school that I saw in the pamphlets or the video. I never thought there could be so much tension between races.

I spoke to Yvonne S. Bogle, Director of the Diversity Program and Services for nine years, about this alarming issue. What she said could not have surprised me more. She defined diversity as "embracing differences" and "equity." Therefore I was shocked to find out that she found the level of diversity in WNEC to be virtually "nonexistent." The problems seem to be that there are a low number of minorities in WNEC. Mrs. Bogle provided me with the approximate number of undergraduate students divided by their race. They are American Indian/Alaskan-.2%, Black-2.4%, White-84.2%, Hispanic-2.5%, Asian-2.1%, International-1.1% and other 7.6%. These figures show that the number of minorities overall is too low. It is not surprising, then, if minority students have a hard time fitting in, or if the majority have a hard time accepting them. This is a key problem.

Things to improve this have been done and are being done. There is a Diversity Committee at WNEC that makes proposals to aid



the school with this issue. From this committee, programs such as the Fireside Lounge Conversations, luncheons, mentor programs and focus groups have been created. Also, speakers have been invited to talk on the subject and scholarships have been offered to local area high schools to attract minorities. This year four white males received the scholarship. One other suggestion made by Bogle was that when people in the faculty leave, "we could try earnestly to replace them with people of color."

The number of full-time faculty in WNEC shows the need to implement this suggestion. Out of the 114 full-time undergraduate faculty members there are 3 Blacks, 6 Asians or Pacific Islanders and 105 White teachers. Mary Irzyk, an employee in Deliso Hall, provided this information. It really seems hard for me to believe that the efforts to make the school more diverse are earnest after looking at these figures. Vergi Lee, a Benefits Administrator in WNEC, provided information on the staff that works in WNEC part-time and full-time, not including faculty or food service. There are 33 Blacks, 2 Asians, 9 Hispanics and 317 Whites. The jobs covered under these figures include Executive Administrative, Professionals, Technical, Paraprofessionals, Clerical, Secretarial, and Service/Maintenance. Maybe things are being done to improve this problem, but the figures show that progress is slow.

Although being a student is hard enough, I cannot begin to imagine what it would be like to work here. A minority staff member from WNEC, who preferred to remain unnamed, stated that, she felt uncomfortable sometimes because she feels "there is preference towards whites and no matter what you do, if you make a mistake, if someone forgets to do something, it feels they always come towards you as if you committed the mistake." Another minority employee, who has been in WNEC for 5 years, when asked if she thought there was diversity, stated clearly that what she sees is "lack of diversity." She also has had a variety of negative experiences in her work area.

It seems clear to me that while there may be efforts to increase racial diversity in WNEC, efforts are few and progress is slow. They key problem seems to be the amount of effort that is placed into making WNEC a racially diverse school versus the efforts needed to make the school more diverse. People are selective in the way they deal with things to avoid change in their own sphere of influence. If I have to admit that I am prejudiced towards Blacks, for example, and I work with Blacks, it will completely change not only the environment in which I work in but also my paradigm of life. If I choose to say there is nothing wrong in the environment and I am selective to the things I object to in the work area then I will produce very little change.

It seems to me that people are afraid of change when it comes to being more racially diverse. They see the whole ordeal as uncomfortable. What these same people do not realize is that we minorities live our whole lives uncomfortably. We wake up in that reality and we fall asleep to that reality. And still people find it to hard to sacrifice because they do not want to be "uncomfortable."

Everyone needs to face that prejudice is a reality and we need to get educated and truly make it a part of our past.

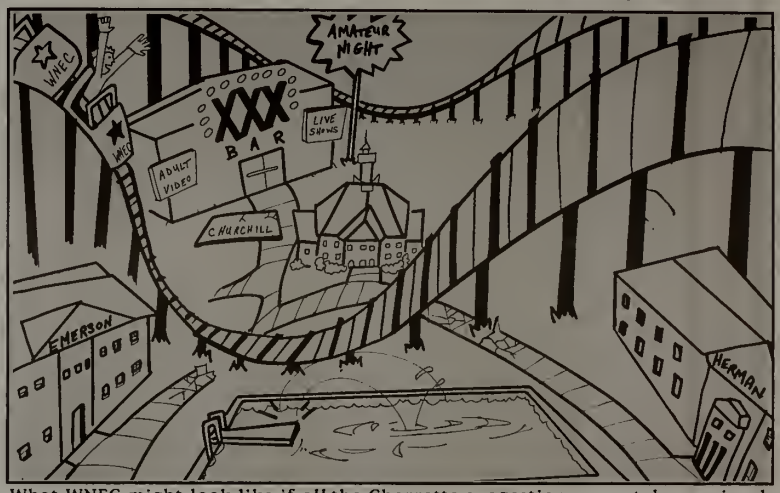
After we do this we can truly make WNEC a more racially diverse school.

by Rafael Osorio

That's Nice ... Now What Does the College Really Need?

The Charrette has come and gone, and someday, we imagine, we'll learn what it was we wanted: ice rinks for the hockey players, atomic particle accelerators for the engineers, bigger rat mazes for the psychologists. In a way, the Charrette was like Christmas, or the month before Christmas, when children make wistful lists of toys they do not have and might not receive. Still, many—perhaps most—took the event seriously, as it was meant to be taken, and thought carefully about what the College needs.

At the risk of sounding like a ten-year-old in November, I would suggest that the College add to its campus an Arts Center. The idea is not a new one, and has been discussed widely in student circles, narrowly in faculty and administrative circles. Specifically, most student rave about the possibility of a Performing Arts Center, where the Stageless Players can store costumes, rig lights, and rehearse their plays.



What WNEC might look like if *all* the Charrette suggestions were taken seriously

But a Performing Arts Center is too limited; there isn't sufficient justification for it, even if one makes the legitimate argument that outside productions might be held there, making WNEC a sort of cultural entity in the area.

Nevertheless, there are no adequate facilities for the arts at WNEC. Sleith 100 is fine for large colloquia, perhaps for some speakers, but it lacks intimacy; one can hardly expect to hear writers and poets read from their work. The Bear's Den, when you come right down to it, is a cafeteria, no matter how low you dim the lights.

The Art Gallery, admittedly modest and infrequently visited, is poorly located. Most of the paintings are arranged along the arc of long partition facing a series of large windows; the glass over the paintings reflects the light from outside, so it is literally impossible to view the art itself—although you may, if you wish, adjust your hair in the reflection.

The student publications office is well equipped, but located just outside the hub of the mall area of the Campus Center, where, understandably, students socialize and unwind. It is difficult, however, to concentrate on journalism with so much distraction.

Finally, there seems to be a growing interest in the arts at WNEC, and a proliferation of new clubs and activities. In time, these organizations will need facilities to do that which makes college campuses unique: organize political demonstrations, engage in charitable activities, produce underground newspapers—in short, embrace the culture they create.

An Arts Center, properly designed, might serve all these needs. It would require many offices, for students and administrators; it would require a modest stage and comfortable seating suitable for performances, lectures, and readings; it would require a practical gallery and reception area for exhibiting artists. It would facilitate and encourage artistic and intellectual growth.

And that is what the College really needs.

by Wayne Barr

So Much Snow, So Few Cancelled Classes

Ahhh, winter. The season of cold winds, ice, sleet, and everyone's favorite, snow. Of course, snow wouldn't be as fun without the words "cancelled classes." But, after experiencing the past two snowstorms, I have learned a lot about WNEC and measurable snow. The first storm brought with it anticipation and hope of a day away from classes. A day to catch up on reading, maybe a wink or two of sleep, and maybe some TV.

Going to bed full of excitement, I *knew* the next day that classes would be cancelled. Just to be safe, though, I set my alarm and got my bag together for the next day's classes. Throughout the night and early into dawn (probably around the time engineering students are turning in for the night) I was dreaming about the day ahead of me. It would be great.

When morning drew near, my alarm went off and I miraculously sprung out of bed and looked out the window. To my dismay, only about half an inch had landed. So I took my shower and, while passing by the windows, decided to peek outside — just because. Holy smokes, Batman! In a matter of twenty minutes there was two, no, three inches on the ground. Fabulous! I immediately turned on the television. It's a little ritual I have. I see snow, turn on the television and watch as my school passes across the bottom of the screen with the words "cancelled" underneath it.

So, while blow drying my hair, putting in my contacts and brushing my teeth, I sporadically checked the scrolling list on News 40. Stopping only when the alphabet was nearing the "W's," I sat down on my coffee table to watch Western New England College pass through the list. However, it was absent. "That's odd," I thought. "Maybe I missed it."

I changed the channel. Certainly WNEC would be on *this* list. Again I anxiously waited to watch the school on the screen announce my relaxing day. But again, I saw nothing. Depressed, I gathered my books, put on my sneakers and trudged through the snow to my 8:00 class. A smidge miffed at the whole thing, I decided to make the best of it.

As it turned out, I still managed to have all eighty minutes of my morning class. That wasn't cancelled either. Upon hiking back to my humble Gateway apartment, I walked in and read the following message on my dry-erase board: "No afternoon classes ... Yippee!" "Oh that's just great", I thought. Why, you ask? I only had *morning* classes that day. That's right. Only two morning classes, *both* of which I still had. Not that I'm bitter, but I can honestly tell you that it burned my candle, if you will, that my perfect class free-day was gone. Sigh.

Recall now the second storm that graciously passed through Springfield. Again, I went to bed full of hope and anticipation of a snow day. Again, I took precautions by setting my alarm. Again, I woke up excited that this would be the day. This would be my snow day. However, as the television ran through its list of delays and cancellations, I learned the ugly truth. The message that flashed before my tear-filled eyes read as follows: "WNEC.... Closed until 11:00."

Oh, the horror. My perfect snow day once again slipped through my fingers. You see, the day the college was closed until eleven was the day when I had all *afternoon* classes. In a matter of two weeks, I had been hopeful of not one, but two glorious "snow days," and let me tell you, it hurt. I still had class again that day. Mind you, the reason I come here is to go to class and study, but everyone enjoys a day off now and then.

That day I felt like a US Postal worker—"Through ice and snow and pouring rain," I went to all of my classes. I know what you're thinking: what a trooper. Thank you, it helps to know you are all supportive. Though the scars from those two days still exist, they are fading. I am still hoping that one of the future snow days will be just right for me.

All I really want is a snow day that fits my needs. Someday it will come. Only the weatherman can tell. So, until that glorious day arrives, watch the Weather Channel and let me know if any snow that fits my schedule is coming our way.

by Jocelyn Jacques

Art Exhibit Celebrates Perspectives of Nature

by Wayne Barr
Assistant Editor

On Sunday, February 5, the Arts Enrichment Committee hosted a reception for three artists whose paintings are now on display in the Art Gallery in the Campus Center. The show, "Nature's Images: Three Perspectives," features the paintings of Ellen Sullivan Farley, Victoria Jordan and Nancy Michon. As the title suggests, all of the paintings take nature as their subject matters—flowers, parks, trees—often with a distinctly impressionistic style.

Farley, a Fairfield University Graduate, owns and operates an art school in Chicopee and teaches art at Holy Name School. One of her most innovative paintings in the exhibit is "Victoria Park, Bath, England," in which a single figure, legs crossed, sits amid scattered lawn chairs and an empty gazebo. More interesting than the lush green of the lawn or the hillside beyond a grove of trees are the peculiarly shaped shadows creeping along the bottom of the painting—not ominous or threatening, merely looming, a presence beyond the frame.

Jordan's approach to art is more carefree than labored. Three of her paintings—"No Worries I," "No Worries II" and "No Worries III"—are quickly painted creations whose titles reflects the attitude or mood of the artist who made them. "I called those 'no worries' because I didn't want to worry about them. I wanted to actually feel like there were no worries doing this, and that's how they came out," Jordan said, adding that "as artists we can't even get close to nature, because it's designed so well. We try, though."

Nancy Michon, Victoria Jordan, and Ellen Sullivan Farley

One perhaps sees the impressionist style most dramatically in Michon's "Ancient Olive." The twisted roots of the tree gnarl into the ground, where the brushstrokes are somewhat reminiscent of Van Gogh. Nature is implicitly spiritual; it is Michon's belief "that we, as human beings are all works of art, created by the Master Creator. Therefore, my work leans toward the spiritual because of my creative inheritance." Her painting is meant to be positive and uplifting, to achieve a "balanced design and composition that makes sense."

This, actually, seems to be the goal of all three artists—to unequivocally celebrate nature, to capture the beauty and joy of it. Their subjects are frequently bathed in bright light; only rarely (as in "Victoria Park, Bath, England") do shadows figure prominently.

The exhibit is a delight, but one wonders about other forms of nature: the raging storm, thunder and lightning, a howling gale rattling the windowpanes at night. One wishes these perspectives had been represented as well.

Acoustic Girl Circle Performs in Campus Center

by Josh Ackley
Contributing Writer

On Monday, February 7, the band Acoustic Girl Circle played a live concert in the Mall Area of the campus center. I had the pleasure of interviewing them and seeing their show.

The band consists of three talented New York City female singer/songwriters who, aside from their own bands and solo projects, have joined together to form Acoustic Girl Circle, and have just begun an extensive tour.

Western New England College was their first stop. When they are not playing together, each of the band's members—Trina Hamlin, Nini Camps, and Marilyn D'Amato—have separate projects.

Trina Hamlin, besides singing for Acoustic Girl Circle, plays harmonica and guitar, and has a successful solo career. Her music has been featured in several places, including the TV show *Dawson's Creek*.

Nini, who played guitar and sang, is also a member of the band Love Pie, and has been featured on the TV show *Felicity*.

Marilyn has been playing professionally for ten years, and when she is not playing drums and singing for Acoustic Girl Circle, she is a member of the band M5. Also, Marilyn produced both of Trina's solo albums and, along with Nini, she is co-owner of their own label, ModMusic Records, featuring the up-and-coming band Scout.

The author, and the band

The show was fun, energetic, and pleasantly informal. While performing, the band would talk with the audience and joke around with each other. The music was excellent, reminiscent of Ani Difranco and Paula Cole in some aspects.

The band members all seemed to have a really good time, and the crowd was very receptive. Mixing their own songs with a few favorite covers, the band switched lead singers often, keeping the show interesting and showing off the individual talents of each member.

Trina showed off her harmonica skills while Nini would let loose on the guitar and Marilyn pounded her mini drum set.

Everyone present enjoyed themselves and the hope is that they will come back in the future.

Are Your Weekends Too Boring?

by Sara Mosier
Staff Writer

It seems like students don't really have much to do on the weekends. Wait, I should rephrase that actually. It seems like students at Western New England College choose to do nothing but party on weekends. Is this because there is a lack of programs each weekend that passes by?

I see many activities for Friday's events; however, it seems as though not many people are using the opportunity to meet people and do something else other than drink on a Friday or Saturday night.

I am not saying that every student drinks, because I for one can vouch for that. I am saying that if people stopped and looked at what this campus has to offer, I think that they would be surprised.

The last Friday's I went to was two weeks ago, and I can honestly say that there were not that many people in attendance. It is sad that the school puts so much money into programming and many students are not even aware of the opportunities that the school gives them to have fun on the weekend, without the need to gain the normal college buzz through drinking.

I know that many students also go home on the weekends. Stay here! Even if you just end up renting a movie with a friend, it is still better than going home and hanging with your parents! The other students who keep saying that they are bored at WNEC all need to really see what this school has to offer. The programs, the clubs, and the activities that are available to join, can grasp even the most outrageous interests.

So, my fellow WNEC students, why not give these Friday's events, the comedy events, and the club functions a chance. The only thing that you have to lose is the time sitting around your room and watching TV or getting so drunk that you can't remember what you did the previous night. WNEC is waiting for you, so why not use your tuition bill to its full potential?

Stageless Players End Fall Semester with One Act Plays

by Megan Murray
Contributing Writer

On December 2, 3 and 4, at 7:00pm, the Stageless Players put on their first show since their original production, "Remote Kontrol." The "One Actravaganza" was a compilation of seven well-known, not-so-well-known, and original one act plays.

The show opened with "Misjudgement," written by Players member Lindsay Maguire. The cast included freshmen Joshua Dougless as Matt, Chris Ouelette as Ed, and Jeff Pacific as Gary. Among the upperclassmen, Jenn Sess played Lilly, Dan Corthell was Glenn, James Russell was Gus, Jen O'Brien as Jenny and member Kritistin Hallahan as Stella.

This one-act was about a school dance and how you don't always get what you expect. With a fun and amusing stage slide, the audience was won by James Russell impersonating Marlon Brando in "A Street Car Named Desire" by screaming "Stella!" This play ends leaving the audience wondering why nobody actually gets any in the play.

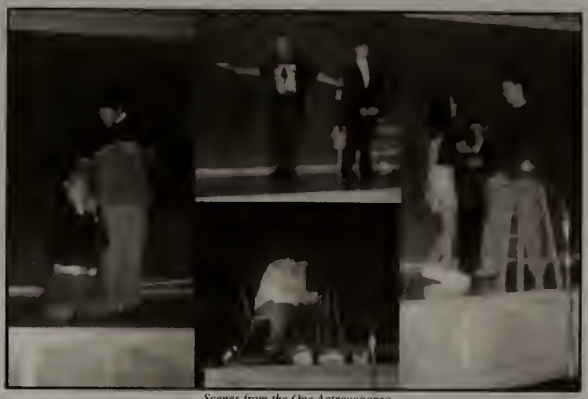
The second play was "Ferris Wheel" written by Mary Miller, in which John, played by Eric Johnson, and Dorie, played by Leana Monteiro, are stuck at the top of a ferris wheel. While stuck up there they talk about their lives and in the process end up kissing. The play ends with them being grounded again and each going in their separate directions.

"Railing It Uptown" is a play about two average women on a New York subway car. Written by Shirley Lauro, this play teaches that just by the way a thing is said it can be taken as an assault. The characters include the crazy woman in black played by Jaci Colby and the lady in white played by Jenn Sessa.

The final play before the intermission was "Who's on First." Written by Abbott and Costello and played by Eric Johnson and Chris Ouelette, this play is about how one word can mean many others. With their witty and humorous arguments Chris and Eric had the audience rolling in the aisle as they fought about the names of the players on the team.

Intermission gave the Players a chance to regroup and get ready for the second half of the show. The Golden Bear Pep Band was on site to sell refreshments to the audience and even to some of the actors and actresses.

The second half of the show opened with the play "Love Poem #98" by Regina Taylor. The Husband named Emmanuel, played by Josh Ackley, and his wife Mary Magdalene and her alter ego, played by Lindsay Maguire and Jen O'Brien. This play was one of the more serious plays of the night and also one of the more confusing ones.



Scenes from the One Actravaganza

It was about the husband wanting to recapture the real image of his wife by destroying a whore image of her conceived in his mind. Both sides of Mary speak about their situations, while Emmanuel comes to grasp with this new reality.

"Death Knocks," by Woody Allen, is about a man faced with Death himself. He wins another day of life by beating Death at a game of Gin Rummy. Nat Ackerman, played by Dan Crothell, and Death, played by Doug Lam, made this play amusing as Death is made a fool of and we learn how comical the end of life can be.

The show ended with Laura Cunningham's "Flop Cop," a humorous play about a police officer assigned to stop an overdue playwright. Officer Michelle Murphy, played by Kristin Hallahan, is in charge of taking out the playwright played by Jeff Pacific. In the end he becomes a posthumous success.

The Stageless players would like to thank all who helped make the show possible and all who attended the show.

The Players meet on Thursday nights in Rivers Memorial Gymnasium from five to six-thirty pm. They are always looking for new members and ideas for other shows and events.

If you are interested in acting or would like to join them, you can attend a meeting or call Megan at x4368.

First Annual Beauty, Health and Fitness Expo

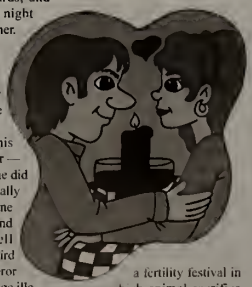
On Valentine's Day, Monday, February 14th from 1:00pm to 6:00pm, stop by the first annual Beauty, Health and Fitness Expo in the lobby of the AHLC. Student Senate, CAB, Wellness and Health Services will be hosting this event.

The booths will include hair stylists, manicurists, massage therapists, WNEK, food, ciropractics, hearing and vision testing, cholesterol and blood sugar testing, and raffle and door prizes!

Valentine's Day Not Just for Lovers

by Kata Lawlar
Staff Writer

We all know that Valentine's Day is right around the corner. And soon we will be planning for the big day — buying roses and chocolate, sending cards, and making plans for the night with our significant other. But with all the shopping and planning, most people forget what the true meaning of this day is, and why we celebrate this holiday.



We all know who this holiday was named after — Saint Valentine. What he did on the other hand, is usually a complete mystery. One of his many legends, and perhaps the most well known, says that in the third century in Rome, Emperor Claudius II made marriage illegal for young men. St. Valentine continued to marry young couples, believing that the law was unfair.

The legend goes on to say that Valentine was discovered and put to death for his actions. Valentine's Day is said to be the anniversary of St. Valentine's death and burial — and was celebrated as a holiday in the Christian Church.

This holiday is also said to be a Christianized version of the Pagan festival, Lupercalia. This was a fertility festival in which animal sacrifice and fertility rituals would take place.

Among these rituals was that at the end of the day all the women in the town or city would place their names in an urn, where the young unmarried men of the city would choose one. The two would be paired for a year, and often would be married. Later, when the Christian Church became a larger influence, this ritual was outlawed.

Perhaps the most up-to-date meaning of the holiday was originated in France in the middle ages, when they believed that spring was a time of mating and romance, and February 14 was the beginning of birds' mating season. The French later took on this date to celebrate romance in their culture, and it became the most romantic day of the year.

There are many things about this holiday that we don't know about. But regardless of the many aspects, the essence is still the same: this holiday is meant to be shared with the many people that you care about. It isn't about the expensive gifts or romantic dinners—it's about the time spent and the feelings shared.

So for all you cynics out there and there are many of you this Valentine's Day, when you are grumbling because you think it's a waste of time or you have no one to share it with, remember that there are many others with whom you can share it.

A Look Back at the 1999 NFL Season

by Kevin Hessett
Sports Co-editor

This NFL season was one of ups and downs, of glorious triumph and of sad tragedy.

The St. Louis Rams represent the ultimate triumph of the year in winning Super Bowl XXXIV in Atlanta. If you had told someone five or six months ago that the Rams would win it all, you more than likely would have been laughed at. Last season the Rams went 4-12, last place in the NFC West Division. The Rams had the talent, it has been in place for a few years now. It was just a matter of getting it all together.

The Rams signed Dick Vermeil as their coach a few years ago. Vermeil has not coached in the NFL since the 1982 season when his Philadelphia Eagles lost in Super Bowl XVII. The first couple years in St. Louis were tough, as Vermeil was often criticized for working his team too hard. This year however, Vermeil let up a bit.

Before the season began, the Rams faced a tough situation. Starting quarterback Trent Green was lost for the season due to injury. Into his place stepped Kurt Warner, a man who had previously played for the Iowa Barnstormers of the Arena League and the Amsterdam Admirals of NFL Europe, not exactly a household name yet. Warner would wind up having one of the best seasons in NFL history, becoming only the second quarterback to throw for over 40 touchdowns while claiming the NFL MVP award.

Along with the Rams, the Indianapolis Colts were also among the big turnaround success stories in the league this season. The Colts finished with a 3-13 record in 1998 and changed that around to a 13-3 en route to winning the AFC East. The Colts were led by second-year quarterback Payton Manning and by rookie running back Edgerrin James, who led the league in rushing.

On the other end, teams like the Denver Broncos, Atlanta Falcons, San Francisco 49ers, and the New York Jets all received the reverse fate of the Rams and the Colts. Season-ending injuries were the predominant cause of failure for these teams. Denver, in addition to losing star quarterback John Elway due to retirement, also lost Terrell Davis and Shannon Sharpe early in the season. For the Falcons, it was Jamal Anderson; Steve Young for the 49ers, and Vinny Testaverde for the Jets.

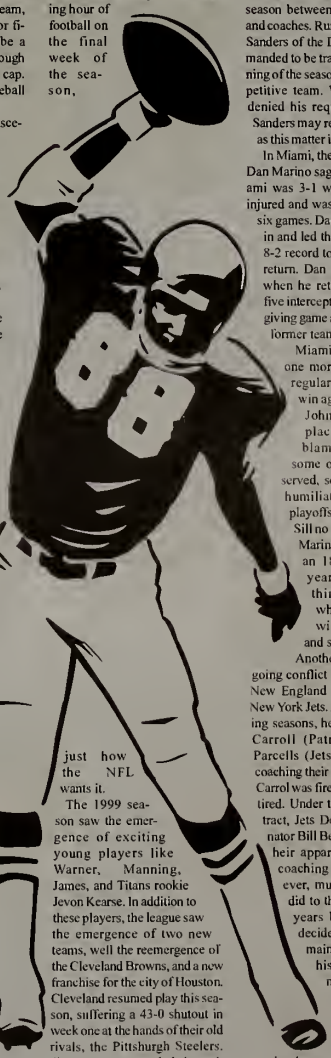
What all of this shows is what is called parity. The NFL has been striving toward this for some time now, to ensure that every team, no matter what it's market or financial status, is able to be a highly competitive team through profit sharing and a salary cap. Perhaps Major League Baseball should look into this.

One highly entertaining scenario that was brought about as a result of this parity was in the final week of the season, with three teams battling for the final playoff spot in the NFC. ESPN had a great piece showing highlights from the Green Bay Packers game and from the Carolina Panthers game.

These two teams were playing simultaneously, one in Wisconsin and the other in North Carolina. The trick here was that both teams needed to win and hope the Cowboys would lose later on in the day. Should the Packers and Panthers both win however, they would both end up with a record of 8-8. In order to break the tie in this case the team with the higher point differential would go on to the playoffs. These teams were, in essence, playing against not only their opponents on the field, but also each other.

The point differential lead went back and forth as both teams had to keep lighting up the scoreboard in order to get the edge. With about a minute to go in their game, the Packers felt they had a comfortable lead over the Panthers so they decided to run out the clock. On a 3rd down play, Packer quarterback Brett Favre got word from the sideline that the Panthers had just scored in their game and were getting too close for comfort. Favre immediately changed the play and threw a touchdown pass to seal the "victory" over the Panthers.

Now Dallas would go on to win their game later on that day so all of that excitement wound up being for nothing. However, it did create one highly entertaining hour of football on the final week of the season, just how the NFL wants it.



The 1999 season saw the emergence of exciting young players like Warner, Manning, James, and Titans rookie Jevon Kearse. In addition to these players, the league saw the emergence of two new teams, well the reemergence of the Cleveland Browns, and a new franchise for the city of Houston. Cleveland resumed play this season, suffering a 43-0 shutout in week one at the hands of their old rivals, the Pittsburgh Steelers. The Browns struggled through the season as expected and finished with the league's worst record at 2-14. The league announced its 32nd franchise would be awarded to Houston. They will begin play in 2002.

There were many conflicts this season between teams, players, and coaches. Running back Barry Sanders of the Detroit Lions demanded to be traded at the beginning of the season to a more competitive team. When the Lions denied his request, he retired. Sanders may return next season as this matter is still unresolved.

In Miami, the Jimmy Johnson/Dan Marino saga continued. Miami was 3-1 when Marino got injured and was out for the next six games. Damon Huard came in and led the Dolphins to an 8-2 record to set up Marino's return. Dan wasn't the same when he returned, throwing five interceptions in a Thanksgiving game against Johnson's former team, the Cowboys.

Miami would get just one more victory in the regular season, a 12-9 win against San Diego. Johnson seemed to place a lot of the blame on Marino, some of it perhaps deserved, some not. After a humiliating loss in the playoffs, Johnson retired. Still no word on whether Marino will be back for an 18th season next year. Personally I think he still has what it takes. We will have to wait and see.

Another interesting ongoing conflict was between the New England Patriots and the New York Jets. After disappointing seasons, head coaches Pete Carroll (Patriots) and Bill Parcells (Jets) are no longer coaching their respective teams. Carrol was fired and Parcells retired. Under terms of his contract, Jets Defensive Coordinator Bill Belichick was to be heir apparent to the head coaching position. However, much like Parcells did to the Patriots a few years back, Belichick decided to void the remaining two years of his contract and is now the head coach of the Patriots.

The NFL has seen its share of players getting into trouble this season. One infamous scene took place in Cleveland back in Week 15 when Browns player Orlando Brown was inadvertently hit in the eye by a referee's weighted penalty flag. After this, Brown proceeded to shove that referee, earning Brown a suspension in the Browns final game with possible further punishment pending.

Off the field, a number of NFL players got in trouble with the Law. Panthers wide receiver Ray Carruth was charged in connection to the shooting of his pregnant girlfriend. Right after the Super Bowl in Atlanta, Baltimore Ravens linebacker Ray Lewis was charged with the stabbing murder of two men outside a nightclub.

Lewis claims he had nothing to do with the murders and that he was merely at the wrong place at the wrong time.

Steve Muhammud of the Colts was charged with battery in the beating of his pregnant wife. She later died although her death was said to be caused by injuries suffered in an auto accident. There were various other incidents throughout the season that included assault, burglary, and sexual assault.

One final note, the NFL lost two of its greatest players this season, Hall of Fame running back Walter Payton and Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Derrick Thomas.

Not only were these two of the elite players at their respective positions, but they were also great leaders on and off the field, who gave back to the game and to their community.

Payton died on November 1, 1999 from liver cancer at the age of 45. The NFL renamed its annual Man of the Year Award recently to the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award. This is a humanitarian award given each year to the player who demonstrates the greatest off-field contributions. Payton won the award in 1977 while Thomas also won the award in 1993.

Last month Derrick Thomas was left paralyzed after an auto accident and had undergone spinal surgery recently. Just this past Tuesday morning, Thomas died following a cardiorespiratory arrest at a Miami hospital. Thomas was just 33.

The deaths of Walter Payton and Derrick Thomas were both tragic and untimely. Both have made great contributions to the game and their communities. They will be missed by fans, players and anyone fortunate enough to have known them.

Sports Writers Wanted

Do you like sports? Do you think sports at Western New England College deserve more attention? Do you like writing and/or photography? Then join our staff! *The Westerner* is looking for writers to cover local sporting events, interview team members, and contribute ideas. Call x1580 for more information.

Golden Bears Set New Records

Abraham, Stewart, and Keane Break 1000

by Allson Morgan
Staff Writer

The Western New England College Golden Bear Men's Basketball team has more to celebrate than an 8-1 record in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC), considering that three of its players have reached 1000 career points this season.

In three separate games for the Golden Bears, Ryan Abraham, Eric Stewart and Tom Keane respectively became the 12th, 13th and 14th players to score 1000 points in Western New England College school history.

As seniors and team captains for the second year in a row, Abraham and Keane have helped to carry their team to a successful 12-5 record overall, while Stewart is the first WNEC junior to reach 1000 points in mure than 10 years.

Ryan Abraham (Newington, CT) was the first of the three to score 1000 points, doing so in the team's 78-75 overtime win over MCLA, on December 9. This season he is averaging 6.9 rebounds and 25.1 minutes per game.

As of now he is the eighth highest player in scoring and second highest in field goal percentage, in school history.

Eric Stewart (Fort Montgomery, NY) had 22 points in the Bear's 88-86 January 19th victory over Elms College, the same game that he reached 1000 career points. He leads the basketball team with 10.3 rebounds per game and more than 25 blocks this season. He is the ninth highest scorer in school history so far, as a junior.

Tom Keane (Yonkers, NY) was the most recent member of the men's basketball team to score 1000 points.

Keane, who leads the rest of his teammates in playing time with more than 30 minutes per game, reached the mark on January 27th against Southern Vermont College.

Unlike Abraham and Stewart, Keane made school history in an away game but was able to help carry his team to a 98-91 overtime win in the process. Aside from leading the team in minutes, Keane dnminates in assists, steals and shooting percentages for the Golden Bears and is currently sixth in school history for 3-point shooting.

With the help of Ryan Abraham, Eric Stewart and Tom Keane, it is predicted that the WNEC Men's Basketball Team will not only win their conference but also do well in the GNAC Tournament.

Author Lectures at College

Foner Addresses Changing Definitions of Freedom

FONER, from page 2

That night Foner gave a second lecture, this time in Sleith 100, which was fully attended as well . This time he was enthusiastically introduced by Prof. Baick of the history department, a former student of Foner's at Columbia University who described Dr. Foneris scholarship as ifirstrate, and a foremost authority in his fieldi, and compared studying history under Foner to "learning baseball with Mark McGuire". This time Foner discussed different yet related topics, focusing on Freedom in the context of America's relations on the international scale, comparing our definitions of freedom with that of other nations.

He began by summarizing the common American belief that the US is somehow destined to be a beacon of freedom to lead the world. He quoted ministers of the early 19th century who saw America as being granted a divine mission to being freedom to the world and be an asylum for freedom seekers. This concept of asylum is self-contradictory, considering his mention in the earlier speech that only free whites were admitted. The second issue is the vaguely hubristic concept that "we are the only free nation", i.e. that only our definition of freedom is correct and that we must push it upon other people. The example of native Americans being conquered and s subjugated within a "free" nation is the most telling.

Foner expounded on how the definition of freedom changes, but "the group that associates itself with freedom will he successful". Any political party or contingent that makes itself look like the group for freedom has an advantage, and is able to paint the world in a sharp dichotomy of black and white - liberator and oppressor.

He moved these contradictions onto the world stage. Americans are caught in a peculiar paradox. We consider ourselves "special" as the "only truly free nation". However, we want to liberate the world by making them just like us. Yet in doing so, we will lose the uniqueness that we cling to so proudly. Also, the "Freedom" that we push upon another culture may actually be contrary to that culture's definition of freedom, and hence be a form of oppression instead. What is right for our culture is not necessarily right for everybody.

While reminding the audience of this important caveat, however, Foner warned against excessive cultural relativism. "What are we to think of the Sudan, where slavery is practiced? Should we say that's their culture, and they can run it the way they want?" In the end, Foner's lecture opened more questions that it answered, which was the goal of the lecture series, to give impetus to a dialogue about the state of our nation and community. In broadening the definition of Freedom, Foner opened up a can of worms designed to get a dialogue going on the campus.

The conclusion of this lecture ended much less abruptly than the former, with many questions being raised by the audience on a variety of issues. One audience member inquired "if you could bring back one historical figure, who would it be". He replied that historical figures are made in the context of their times and he dues not think a person who was great in the past would be so today.

After the lecture student reaction was mixed, with a tendency toward the negative. On the colloquium discussion boards one student complained that "we don't need another history lesson," other considered Foner's subject of discussion irrelevant to their lives and studies. However, others considered it a thought-provoking experience that raised questions about the terms of freedom that people often speak without realizing what it really means. In the end Foner's lecture was a thought-provoking beginning to the 2000 lecture series, though it was stymied by lack of general student interest.

Next Lecture

Wednesday, February 23 2 & 7 PM.

Robert Ellis Smith, editor of *The Privacy Journal*, will address issues of privacy in the computer age with specific reference to David Brin's *The Transparent Society*. Smith is a renowned authority on privacy issues and a frequent speaker, news commentator, and congressional witness.

CLASSIFIEDS

Six Flags Seeks Local Talent for Summer Entertainment Department. Auditions to be held on Sat. Feb. 19, Springfield Marriot Hotel. For more information call Pete Shannon at (413)786-9300, X-3322.

Ever want to sell cosmetics? Now's your chance, visit Mary Kay Cosmetics in the Mall Area Campus Center. Thursday Feb. 17, stop and talk with them about job possibilities.

Part-time security guard wanted. Weekend days and weekday evenings from 4-11 p.m. at luxury apartment complex in downtown Springfield. Call Arthur Edwards, (413) 781-1220 to schedule an interview.

Harbourvest Partners, LLC is looking for an investment analyst. Must possess strong analytical, communications, financial, and computer skills. Contact Jeffery Keay at (617)348-3707 for more info.

Help save the earth! Join the Water Watch Organization on campus. We have river clean-ups, teach children about water quality, and monitor waterways. Call Chris to learn more at 781-5712.

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THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 45/Issue 3 • February 25, 2000

CAMPUS & LOCAL NEWS

Nikki Giovanni shares her views and her poetry with the College community

p. 2

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

As winter thaws, thick puddles ooze over the campus — is there anything we can do, besides complain?

p. 5

ROVING REPORTER

Who would students vote for if elections were held tomorrow? Or would they vote at all?

p. 7

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

One on one with London, the College's own Rock and Roll band

p. 8

SPORTS

Wrestling team ends season on positive note

p. 10

Going Once, Going Twice ... Sold!

by Malanie Gura
Staff Writer

Another Valentine's Day has come and gone. And while many sought comfort in the routines of flowers, chocolates, stuffed animals, and romantic dinners, others took a slightly different road and purchased their dates.

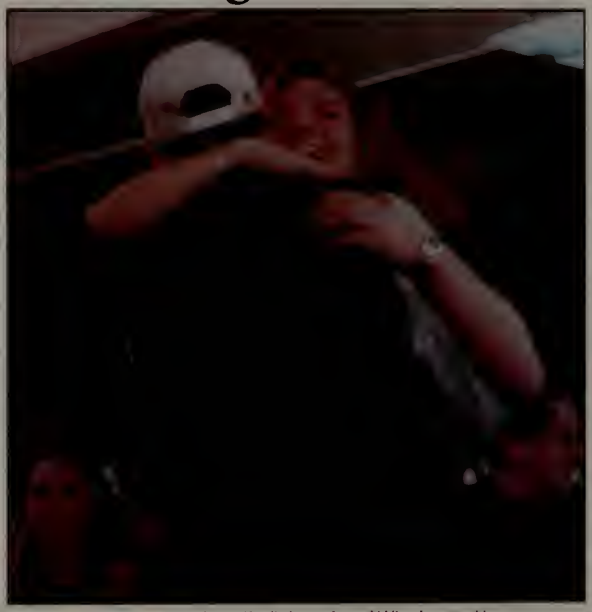
Last Wednesday night, on February 16th, The Rock Cafe was overflowing with participants, spectators, bidders, and buyers for the seventh annual Dream Date Auction.

The Residence Hall Association (RHA) sponsored the auction. All of the proceeds went to the Springfield YWCA Abuse and Rape Crisis Hotline (ARCH).

Greg Poole was the Master of Ceremonies and WNEK 105.1 provided the music. Last year, the event made approximately one thousand dollars; this year, the goal was to surpass that amount.

Well, this year's auction brought in over fifteen hundred dollars, not including donations. Prizes were awarded to the top three bidders as well as to those who bid over thirty dollars. The highest bidder received a limousine ride, dinner for two, and a movie package. The second highest bidder was awarded dinner for two and a movie package. And the

See AUCTION, page 3



George Romeo embraces Natalie Arena after outbidding the competition

Robert Ellis Smith Speaks on Privacy

by James Russell
Editor

The second speaker of the 2000 Lecture Series was Robert Ellis Smith, publisher of the Privacy Journal and expert on the security of personal information in the Electronic Age. Since 1974 he has written the monthly publication, as well as written two books and testified before Congress, being appointed in 1997 by Al Gore to a committee on airline security.

Mr. Smith delivered two lectures at two and seven o'clock respectively on what he considers the greatest threats to our electronic privacy today, with specific reference to David Brin's book *The Transparent Society*, which was required reading for incoming Freshmen.

At his two o'clock lecture, Mr. Smith opened by saying that he despised Brin's book, a sentiment already felt by most students who had been made to read it and disliked it to a similar degree. Smith considered the book repetitious and bombastic, with lots of abstract theory and no specific relevance to its readers lives. He also told of unpleasant personal encounters with the off-putting Brin.

These statements won him over with the audience, who felt the same way, and he recommended that the book not be continued next year. Smith also spoke about what may be the best protection against government and individual eavesdropping on elec-

See SMITH, page 4

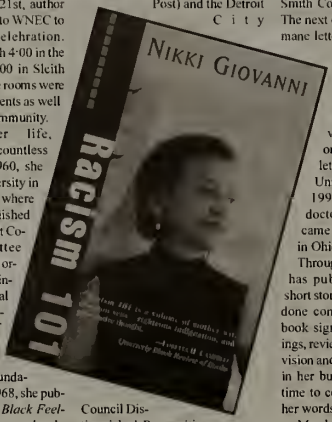
Robert Ellis Smith chats with Dr. Caprio at lunch

Giovanni Speaks to Students for Black History Month

by Melanie Gura
Staff Writer

Throughout the month of February, the WNEC diversity office sponsored and funded many programs in celebration of Black History Month. On the 21st, author Nikki Giovanni came to WNEC to participate in the celebration. Giovanni spoke at both 4:00 in the Bear's Den and at 7:00 in Sleith 100. At both times, the rooms were overflowing with students as well as members of the community.

Throughout her life, Giovanni has made countless achievements. In 1960, she enrolled in Fisk University in Knoxville, Tennessee where she, in 1965, reestablished the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). In 1967, she organized the first Cincinnati Black Arts Festival and entered the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Work with a Ford Foundation fellowship. By 1968, she published her first book, *Black Feeling, Black Talk*, which was closely followed by the publication of her second book, *Black Judgment*, in 1969. From 1972-1980, she helped finance, served as editorial consultant to, and wrote regularly for *Encore American & Worldwide News*.



In addition to her many achievements, Giovanni has also received many awards and honors. She was named as the YWCA Woman of the Year in 1983. In 1985, she was named to the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame and named Outstanding Woman of Tennessee. One year later, she received the Post-Corbett Award (Cincinnati Post) and the Detroit City Council Distinguished Recognition Award. And in 1988, she received the Children's Reading Roundtable of Chicago Award.

Receiving many awards has not deterred Giovanni from continuing her education. In 1974, she received her first honorary doctorate in humanities from Wilberforce University in Ohio.

Her second one came only two years later in literature from Ripon University in Wisconsin. In 1977, she received her second honorary doctorate in literature from the University of Maryland. One year later, she received her third honorary doctorate in literature from Smith College in Massachusetts. The next one came in 1985 in humane letters from the College of Mount Saint Joseph in Ohio. In 1988, she received her second honorary doctorate in humanities from Fisk University. Her second honorary doctorate in humane letters came from Indiana University in 1991. And in 1992, her third honorary doctorate of humane letters came from Otterbein College in Ohio.

Throughout her life, Giovanni has published books, essays, short stories, and poems. She has done conference, presentations, book signings, readings, recordings, reviews, interviews, and television and radio appearances. But in her busy schedule, she found time to come to WNEC to share her words with us.

Much of Giovanni's work comes from her own life experiences. She read several of her poems based on her childhood and growing up in the south during the summers.

Not only did she speak about her life, she spoke about matters that affect us as a community such as homophobia, racial prejudice, and violence.

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Water Watch Holds First Meetings

Students Assemble To Educate Community and Preserve Environment

by Craig Nakashian
Editorials Editor

The Western New England College Community Water Watch held its first-ever General Interest Meeting on February 9th in the Bear's Den. Over forty people attended, one of the highest proportional rates for similar groups throughout the state, to learn about issues surrounding water quality and environmental dangers. Students were invited to learn about the various activities that the Water Watch does, including actual clean-ups, water quality testing and monitoring, and educational campaigns and presentations to local school children.

Massachusetts Community Water Watch

The Water Watch program is partially supported and funded by the Americorps program. As such, representatives from Americorps are generally attached to the student group to aid in activities and act as facilitators and resources. The current Americorps Campus Organizer is Chris Sullivan from Allegheny College, Pennsylvania. His job is to organize and motivate the students to learn about and act upon environmental issues.

Despite being a new and as yet unrecognized student organization, the Water Watch has been extremely active. According to Mr. Sullivan, "The program at WNEC is becoming one of the most successful in the state." During the Fall Semester the Water Watch participated in four clean-ups and engaged in a number of stream monitoring projects and countless elementary education campaigns.

The Water Watch held the General Interest Meeting to increase membership and to improve awareness of the group on campus. Meetings are held weekly at five P.M. on Wednesdays at the Fireside Lounge in the Campus Center in order to plan events, discuss issues, and look into conferences and activities.

Water Watch members prepare for meeting in Fireside Lounge

The group has seen a relatively high rate of member retention and looks ahead to an increasing pattern of growth. Since the environment is a growing concern among many people in our society, organizations such as the Water Watch promise to continue to grow and expand as well. I am the contact person for Water Watch, and if you have any questions call me at 596-3235 or email cnakashi@map.com.

Auction Raises Money for Battered Women's Shelter

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third highest bidder received a movie package. All of those who bid over thirty dollars received gift certificates to Blockbuster video rentals in various denominations.

Christie Holmes waits for the highest bid

There were a total of forty students auctioned off. For each person, the bidding started off at two dollars. The first auction of the night was John Tavares, a sophomore. Very excited to be up there, John danced around the stage and went into the audience to gain some bids. It was Nadine Gravel who eventually bought John for four dollars. The final auction of the evening was John Ahbott. Suzan DiMarco paid sixty-five dollars for John.

The lucky top prize winners were Dan Corthell and Heather Lech. Dan was being auctioned off and Heather bought him for a whopping one hundred and seventy-eight dollars. This was one of the highlights of the evening.

Determined to get the limo ride, Dan took the microphone from Greg and worked the audience. When Greg did the announcing, he bartered in two-dollar increments. However, while Dan was acting as MC trying to sell himself, he proceeded in ten-dollar increments. This is what helped to bring in the most money.

When asked how he felt about being the highest-bid recipient, Dan responded, "I never expected to make that much, but I'm glad I got the limo ride."

The second highest bidder was Nadine Gravel. She paid one hundred and fifty-eight dollars for Luke Devlin. These two received a dinner for two along with a movie package. The recipients of the third prize were Jim Morris and Gina Baldwin.

Like everyone else, Gina started out at two dollars and only got up to four before Jim shouted out "eighty dollars!" Greg immediately declared her "sold!"

The Dream Date Auction had many entertaining highlights. One came when Tim Dubay was being auctioned off. Trying to increase his bids, he said, "I'll make it worth your while."

Apparently, his plea worked for Stacy Hankey, who ended up purchasing him for forty-six dollars.

Another entertaining moment came when a bidder, and a friend, of Faybian Palmer, bid on Jen Sweatuwitz to increase the price for Faybian. Fortunately, Faybian won the bid and the date with Jen for forty dollars.

All in all, the Dream Date Auction was a huge success. Bringing in over fifteen hundred dollars, and donating it all to the YWCA, the RHA was very pleased with the outcome.

Eric Johnson (center) fetches 40 dollars from bidders Becka Jones (left) and Joline Avery (right)

Dana McSherry, RHA vice-president, said that the outcome was "much better than expected."

Hopefully, with equal support in future years, the Dream Date Auction will continue to bring in money for excellent causes.

SWE Sponsers Paper Airplane Contest

by Wayne Barr
Assistant Editor

If you were walking down the right corridor in Sleith on Tuesday, at the right moment, you just may have been hit in the head with a paper prujectile as it was launched out of the building's lecture hall.

For twenty minutes or so, engineering majors and other interested students gathered in Sleith 100, the stadium seating of which is ideal for testing ... paper airplanes. Their goal? To design an efficient, aerodynamic craft, and win movie tickets.

This was Western New England College's Second Annual Paper Airplane Contest, sponsored by the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) in recognition of National Engineer's Week.

A paper airplane contest is a modest way tu celebrate, SWE president Erica Landry admitted. "A lot of schools really do it up," she said. "They have big competitions, but we're smaller, so we're having a smaller event."

Approximately fifteen students participated.

The object of the competition was to fly a paper airplane from the top row of Sleith 100 through the doors behind the stage. Runners-up could win by landing their planes on the podium.

Students who could make it out the duor would receive two movie tickets; those landing on the podium would receive one ticket.

Students test their paper airplanes in Sleith 100

Students seemed confident as they made their planes, which could not be weighted with paper clips, coins, or anything else. But the task was more daunting than it originally seemed — with the exception of senior Tom Marino, no one was able to land in a winning area.

So Landry changed the rules — to win a movie ticket, all contestants had to do was land on the stage itself.

There were, according to Landry, differing theories about what makes a paper plane fly well.

"Some people say more wing, less body will take it farther, others say more body, less wing," she said. "We had a lot of different ideas."

Although students had to think critically about what they were doing, one did not have to master the complexities of engineering to participate.

"It doesn't have a whole heck of a lot to do with engineering," Landry explained. "But all you have is paper, so you have to use your mind and be inventive, see what works, redesign, and try again."

In the future, SWE is considering hosting an alumni dinner, but future activities, according to Landry, are "up in the air."

SWE consists of 15 to 20 female engineering students, which is, as Landry pointed out, "about one hundred percent of the women [engineering] population."

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Internet Poses Risk to Privacy

SMITH, from page 1

tronic communications — encryption. Encryption is a method of encoding Internet messages with extremely high prime numbers, using programs such as Pretty Good Privacy, so that they can only be deciphered by the intended recipient with a decoding key.

The government has restricted encryption, considering it a tool for crime and preventing it from being exported overseas, which has caused controversy among the security community.

After the speech Smith had dinner with representatives of the college administration and campus media. They spoke about current security controversies, such as ECHELON, a murky government project to monitor all internet communications for dangerous keywords, which has riled privacy advocates and conspiracy buffs.

Smith also discussed possible risks to security at WNEC, such as personal security numbers on student ID cards and easy access in faculty faxes and mailboxes to snoopers.

At seven o'clock Smith spoke again to a smaller but more intent audience, illuminating in greater detail what he sees as the increasing threat to personal security from marketing businesses and malicious individuals. Smith said that "privacy equates with autonomy, personal freedom." He began by speaking about the controversy surrounding DoubleClick, an Internet ad service firm.

When a browser visits a website that is a member of DoubleClick, it puts a "cookie" onto the user's hard drive, a file that surreptitiously tracks where a user goes on-line. When a user has many DoubleClick cookies, they can create a substantial profile of what websites a user visits, without their consent or knowledge. Essentially, DoubleClick spies on Internet users for marketing purposes.

> ***"Citizens now need to be verified by the government to be bona fide people. In a democracy it should be the other way around."***

The cookie also uniquely identifies each user so that websites can be altered when repeat visitors view them. Banner ads are changed to match the user's DoubleClick profile of what kinds of websites they have been to in the past.

"What is so nefarious about DoubleClick?" said Smith. "You are being monitored without your consent. It is impossible to know which websites are clients, and you have no control of the passing on of information."

Many DoubleClick clients are also lying to users, claiming extensive privacy policies while monitoring users. "This is deceptive advertising, and an unfair trade practice," he said. "If sites are collecting information, is that not a violation of that promise? Is that not a breach of contract?"

DoubleClick has responded by saying that "there is a right to opt out, and do not collect individual information" but Smith retorts that "they make opting out as difficult as possible." However, Smith stated that this is not a distant possibility. "Are we ready for an ad agency that collects personal information, and not anonymous demographics?"

Next he spoke on what he considers a disturbing trend towards government ID cards for everyone in incremental bureaucratic steps, "we have moved perilously close to reducing people to a number." He said, "this is a matter of human dignity and personhood."

He sees this trend in the increasing dependence on social security numbers, "often a nurse says to the parents of a newborn 'we don't care about the name, give us the SSN.'" Numbers for infants, this would have been unthinkable ten years ago. The excuse for this system is "to curb abuse of naming duplicate dependents in split families taxes, to catch deadbeat dads and illegal immigrants." Actually, claims Smith, it has more Orwellian intentions.

Smith also sees this pattern in air travel, from his experience on the Airline Safety Board. Most airlines now require a State ID to fly, which he sees as "violating the constitutional right to travel freely by putting it under state control." Few customers refuse to give ID, and those who do are treated with suspicion.

"We are becoming more accustomed to carrying ID. This removes the spontaneity of life and gives too much authority to the Authorities."

This is also an affront to individual dignity. "Citizens now need to be verified by the government to be bona fide people. In a democracy it should be the other way around."

The most egregious violations of personal privacy concern medical records. Hospitals are selling private and personal information, such as embarrassing medical conditions, to pharmaceutical marketers and anyone else who wants to buy them. This is a violation of part of the doctor's Hippocratic Oath — a vow for secrecy between doctor and patient. In only 20 out of 50 states can patients see their own medical records, Massachusetts being one of them, but any company can buy the records.

This violation comes out of a recent trend of third parties such as HMO's paying for medical care instead of the patients themselves and demanding access to the records. Pharmaceutical companies are also marketing directly to people on the basis of these unethically gathered medical records, which Smith called "unconscionable, especially with mental illnesses."

After raising these issues, Smith talked about what you can do to protect yourself from privacy violations. Take advantage of opting out of giving away personal information, such as with magazine subscriptions. Give away as little personal information as possible. Do not give away your social security number, which opens you up to "identity theft", when a malicious person uses your SSN to pose as you, stealing your credit cards and money, "A Kafkaesque nightmare that is hard to get straightened out."

Ask to be taken off telemarketer's calling lists. Remember that cell phone calls can be listened in on with a radio, and that unencrypted email is only as secure as a postcard. Turn off cookies on your web browser. Don't be paranoid, but take rational steps to defend your own security, which he calls "the right to control and dictate use of your own information, not to keep secrets."

His most important advice :"Think like Noah's ark, in twos. Two credit cards, one internet and one for regular transactions. Two phones, one public and one unlisted."

In the remainder of the talk and following question and answer period, he also addressed other contemporary privacy issues, such as the gathering of information from websites, and outrageous omissions from privacy law.

For example, it is legal to have cameras in dressing rooms. There is also a new technology which can detect which stations passing cars are listening to on their radios. Robert Ellis Smith sees privacy as not a luxury or cloak for the paranoid, but an essential part of life. "In Europe, privacy is considered a human right, we should consider it so in America as well."

Kayaking Across Campus

Do you ever wonder where all that rain comes from up there? I mean really, how much rain can clouds hold? The other morning the sky opened up, and boy, did it rain. Buckets upon buckets fell. It was alarming to realize how rain, at certain falling rates, could actually hurt. I don't know exactly what that speed is, but I'm sure the engineers could figure it out somehow. But, it hurts. Walking in heavy rain could be fatal. Okay, maybe not fatal, but it could certainly cause some damage. It was one of those days where some extra socks, an umbrella and a seaworthy vessel was needed.

The rain must have begun early in the morning. That's my educated guess. The only reason for the guess is that when I left my humble apartment for the gym, there was quite an accumulation. It had to be somewhere around 8:15 in the morning (I know ... that's awfully early in the morning to actually be functioning) when I left. I noticed that there was already about two inches of rain.

You're probably thinking the same thing I thought that morning ... if only it were snow. Anyway, while walking the eight and a half miles to the HLC, I found that the "puddles" around the campus showed signs of growing. I use the term puddles lightly, because, as we all know, puddles they are not. They are anything *but*. I knew that the day ahead of me was going to be filled with skills learned only here at WNEC: the skills of water survival.

For instance, who out there braves to cross Lake Erie in front of Franklin Hall? I remember those days not-so-fondly. I'd get all nice and dressed up and proceed down the stairs only to be faced with a small lake in front of me.

And there was no gracious way of eluding the "puddle." You could: a) just jump and hope to make it across, or b) attempt to cross by holding onto the side rail and throwing yourself across the body of water. Neither of these options is too attractive. But personally, I chose option b; I always felt better knowing that I had a slight chance of making it. Plus, option b allowed me to look slightly less foolish. Only slightly. There's no way of getting out of looking foolish. I'm sorry to say, but sometimes, the truth hurts.

While on the subject of the Quad area, who out there wades across the various small pools spread throughout the other sidewalks? Tell me that's sheer pleasure! People walking from Berkshire and Hampden also have two choices: a) plow directly through the puddles, leaving shoes and socks completely drenched, but come out looking like a hero for doing so, or b) trudge through the mud and muck on the coast of the puddle. The obvious choice would be b, simply because it's no fun having wet, soggy socks all day. However it may be worth it if for the rest of the day you're seen as "The Hero."

It's up to you, really.

In addition to the lakes in the Quad, the body of water in front of Sleith also caused some traveling problems. Though I personally did not encounter this puddle, I heard it was a doozy. Also to be mentioned is the small pond near SAS. I had to cross not one, but two rivers to actually get to the building. I think I saw some salmon trying to swim upstream! For some bizarre reason, the drain right there in front of SAS feels it's not necessary to actually drain. Who knows?

However, at it's best, that puddle can reach at least ankle deep. I learned that the hard way last year. I thought, "Hey, it's only a puddle ... how deep could it be?" Okay, guess what? Here at WNEC, the puddles can get *very* deep. Make sure you're up on your backstroke, because it could come in handy here and there. You laugh, but I'm serious!

Between Gateway and Herman, a muddy lake

Finally, the mother of all "puddles" on the campus is, of course, Lake Superior. Yes, that's right, the most gigantic puddle I've ever seen in my life was found here at WNEC. It spanned clear across the entire front sidewalk. Practically from staircase to staircase. To cross this body of water, I'm afraid there was no practical way. That isn't true however for those of you who just happened to bring your kayak. At times I think I saw people scuba diving in the "puddle." It was that big. There was also a current moving through the lake ... I think it was flowing north-north west. The size of that puddle shocked me. It was enormous.

Sadly, by the time you read this article, the pools will have been evaporated. The salmon will have returned to there usual homes. The scuba divers will have put away their gear. But don't be sad. Only after the "puddles" became our campus ice rinks, did they slowly disappear. Though here for only one rain-filled day, the "puddles" will always be remembered. At least in my memory.

I never knew that puddles could be so deep until I came to WNEC. I guess they are just one of the many charming characteristics here on the campus. It's like I've always said: like a peanut butter and jelly sandwich without the jelly, so is WNEC without its "puddles" on a rainy day.

by Jocelyn Jecques

A Challenge to the Administration

I never want anyone to mistake my next statement for cynicism or sarcasm, for I mean what I say: "I LOVE WNEC!" Simply put, I have a deep-seated affection for Western New England College, and that is why it pains me when the College fails to live up to its potential. If you ever wonder why I tend to write editorials cataloguing improvements of WNEC, it is because I feel that this College has so much it could offer, if only it were willing to take the small steps necessary.

In my current vein of proposing improvements, let me start where most notions of college stem from, academics. Our school has the potential to be a very fine academic institution, provided that we allow it to become one. We have the faculty to teach a huge range of topics, but we rarely encourage them to do so.

Allow me to demonstrate my point. For a student of history, especially one interested in going on to Graduate school, learning Latin is of critical importance. Does Western New England College offer Latin? Well ... yes and no. We do now, only because I found a professor interested in and able to teach it, along with a few students interested in taking it. Most people did not know that we offered Latin, because we could not publicize that we did, due mainly to a desire to avoid "stepping on anyone's toes." To sum up, yes I could take Latin, but no, I could not put it in the catalogue so that others could take it as well. We should strive to avoid this kind of self-defeating compromise in the future.

In any event, the point that I am trying to make is that WNEC should concentrate on supporting and expanding its academics before doing anything else. What worries me most is that WNEC recently focused on improving its physical appearance and composition.

At the strangely titled "charrette," students and staff were asked to give input on what the future of WNEC should look like. A fine idea, but one that ignores the underlying academic problems that WNEC faces. We must remember that WNEC's image is not all that it is, but it apparently is all that it wants to be.

The administration of this college, along with the faculty, staff, and students, should hold the improvement of academics as the most important aspect of WNEC's renewal. Unfortunately, it tends to be easier to give the appearance of academic improvement without actually changing too much of the status quo. An example of this would be creating an academic major, but then failing to provide it with the support necessary for it to succeed.

I realize that I am rambling a bit at this point, but it is only because I want to see this school achieve fully the most that it can. This includes facilities, extracurricular activities, and resources — but it must begin with academics. Without a strong academic base a college becomes little more than a camp with classrooms. We are in danger of doing so here if we continue to improve our decorations without fixing the cracks in our foundation.

I would challenge the administration to examine what we *should* offer academically, and then what we *do* offer. We are woefully inadequate in the areas of Humanities (i.e. Art, Music, Dance, Language), as well as being rather weak in a few other Arts & Sciences areas. The simple anecdote about my struggle to begin Latin on campus should serve as a small taste of the problem to which I refer.

As the student body, it is our job to demand that the College suit our academic needs. I do not expect the administration to recognize everything that we need to improve, and so it is our job as students to help them. Talk to your department chairs, or academic deans, about what we need to improve.

Most resistance to this will come from those who feel that we are under financial duress. I disagree. I would ask the administration to give an exhaustive listing of how all of our monetary resources are spent. I will concede that if every dollar of what we spend is truly spent as efficiently as possible, perhaps *then* we would be justified in raising tuition, but certainly not before.

We must never forget that the chief reason we attend college is to learn. Yes, activities are important, as are social engagements and sports. However, all of these are ancillary to the academic foundations that we need. Without strong academics a college is pleasant, but not important. The same holds true for the students at such institutions.

by Craig Nekeshian

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor,

In the last issue of *The Westerner* Mr. Osorio wrote an editorial on diversity that upset a lot of people. But that's not the problem; everyone's entitled to his or her own opinion, no matter how many people are offended.

The real problem is that Rafael Osorio's opinions are contradictory. He writes about the evils of prejudice. He even claims that racial prejudice is the reason he has had a hard time finding a group with which to "fit in."

Yet at the same time, the only information on himself he offers is the fact that he considers himself a "minority." In doing so, he's forcing us to judge him by race. With his anti-racist editorial, he promotes racism.

But the issue of diversity is much larger than Osorio. He quotes such statistics as graduation rates of 2% Indian/Alaskan, 2.4% Black, 84.2% White, and so on. Let me think back a moment to when I filled out a form for WNEC where I was asked my racial/ethnic background.

Before I continue however, let me tell you just what my ethnic background is. I am 50% Portuguese, 25% Polish, 12.5% English, 6.25% American Indian, and the remaining 6.25% I can no longer trace back.

As for my Portuguese side, half of that is mainland and the other half is descended from the Azores. Azore-born Portuguese are considered a half-black race. All in all, quite a mixture, but the technical term for my skin color is "olive," and you know what, I don't recall one of my options being "Green" (I guess that just goes to show how much of a minority I really am).

But being approximately 75% European, half of which is of either Slavic or Anglo descent, I checked off "White."

I hope I've made the point that categories such as "Black, White, Hispanic, Asian, and Other" are simply arbitrary and meaningless, as are the statistics Osorio quoted. So onward to the crux of the matter. Diversity is a problem at WNEC; I'd even go so far as to say Racial Diversity is a problem at WNEC.

I recently attended a conference and sat in on a session on Diversity. There they defined Diversity as being different people with different skills, talents, abilities, likes, dislikes, and anything else that makes up a person.

Here at WNEC the word Diversity is synonymous with Racial Diversity, and that is the focus of WNEC's entire Diversity program and services.

Since I'm labeled as White, I feel very much excluded from such activities. I'm one of the 84.2% — a majority, a normal, and not very special. And yet, at the same time, my culture is not recognized.

Through our food services, we can sometimes select Hungarian Goulash, or get something from the Tex-Mex station. We've even got something called the "Ebony Food-Fest." But where is the Portuguese Soup or Portuguese Sweet Bread? Where's the linguisa, or the chorico? I can't even get a grilled cheese for breakfast (and it *is* a breakfast food where I'm from).

To me though, those things are reasons to go home now and then. I don't need them here, and I'm not crying for WNEC to have them. But I, and many others, are deeply offended by Osorio's lack of abilities to make friends being attributed to prejudice on our part.

I certainly don't like the direction in which Yvonne Bogle is pushing the Diversity Program. The most interesting and unusual thing I learned during my time at WNEC was how to make Chainmail Armor by hand. And I'm sorry to disappoint you, Raffle, but a member of the white majority taught it to me.

If you and your big ideas of racial diversity were in full force here at WNEC, that man's spot might have been taken by a black man just to fill a quota. Given the uniqueness of this friend's skill, I doubt your quota-filler would have been able to offer me the same knowledge.

In an educational institute of higher learning — one in which I pay in the order of $20,000 per year to attend — of my own money mind you, and not that of my parents — I expect — nay, I demand — a diversity of skill, abilities, and talents so that I may interact with as many people as possible, different enough from myself so that I can learn something I might not have otherwise had the opportunity to learn.

Dave Folger

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Dear Editor,

As usual, I picked up another edition to *The Westerner* as soon as it was available. The first thing that caught my attention was a cartoon of a man that was blindfolded saying, "Diversity is not a problem at WNEC."

This particular article evoked so much emotion in me, I knew I couldn't be silent. First of all, this myth about racial diversity, "Western New England College is earnestly trying to do something about it," seems to be in contradiction with the rest of the article.

How can this be true? How can you proclaim that WNEC is not doing anything about racial diversity when you later describe all the functions of the Diversity Program and the services it provides? Fireside Lounge Conversations, luncheons, mentor programs, focus groups, invitations to speakers to talk about diversity, and scholarships offered to attract high school minorities, are just a few of the motions generated to make our school racially diverse.

I feel WNEC is not only performing the appropriate actions to bring awareness about racial diversity to us, but is achieving diversity as well. It is true, we have few minorities on this campus, but not a lack of diversity. Yvonne S. Bogle, the Director of the Diversity Program, defined diversity as "embracing differences" and "equity." There are lots of differences on this campus other than just the color of our skin. Why does our skin color generate the most attention? I feel WNEC is very fair and just. I have been here for four years, and I have not witnessed any intentional racism towards a minority.

Another issue I want to address is the effort to "fit in." You mentioned that at SOAR you "spent a lot of time alone, regardless of [your] efforts to 'fit in.'" You automatically conclude that this was the response of strong racial tensions. Have you really put forth the effort to socialize and get to know people? I honestly don't think you have, because this campus is full of people that are very receptive and have no wall-like barriers.

I guess one of the reasons I am so upset about this editorial is that when someone writes about the lack of diversity on our campus, and how he or she feels excluded and uncomfortable, this is a direct reflection on those of us who don't see it that way. It gives the school a reputation that I believe has no merit.

I have seen articles circulating on this campus before, crying claims of racial indifference. For once I would like to see an article refuting these alleged, individual perceptions. WNEC has a solid diversity program, which brings cultural enrichment and knowledge to our small community.

It honestly hurts me to see an editorial like the one printed on "Lack of Diversity a Problem at WNEC." I'm going to throw the following statement out again, but try looking at it in another light. "People are selective in the way they deal with things to avoid change in their own sphere of influence."

Try applying that to your own life, and maybe the articles on "lack of diversity" will diminish.

Kristy Lewis

Who Needs Ambition?

Ambition. What's it for? A question you often ask yourself as you get ready to head off to another class, another discussion, another lab. You can't remember where you put the filters, so your coffee is crunchy. You wander off for another hour in Sleith, where the air conditioning kicks in just as the mercury outside shoots all the way up to zero.

Too much work to do? Don't sleep! It's overrated anyway. You might be able to learn how to sleepwalk accurately so that you can nap on your ten minute journey between classes.

But beware! You must arrive in time for feel the wrath of the professor who declares you to be absent if you walk in the door two minutes after class is scheduled to start — as if you could trust the clocks in the building to read the same time; the one in the restroom said you still had three minutes to get to class.

You finally finish class, and when you get back to your living quarters, ready for a nap, you feel the need to check your messages. There's one from your advisor; that company you always said you wanted to work for will be on campus — in fifteen minutes!

You grap another cup of crunchy coffee (in fact, you're starting to feel an affinity for it — it has more character than most coffees) throw on your cleanest dirty shirt and get over there. Shake some hands, promise to send out your resume, which is in severe need of a makeover, as soon as humanly possible. You collect some business cards, try to remember as many faces and names as you can in as little time as possible. You really need a nap.

Where's it get ya? You can't eat it ... as you get ready for a nap you realize you've forgotten to eat today. What have you been doing? Oh yeah — trying to make a name for yourself in the world.

You can't get what you want. It always seems to be just out of reach. But you can't settle for less, right? You can't want what you get, but oh, how you long to find an easy way out somewhere. Unfortunately, you've come to the realization that desire's a fire with big red eyes, and it'll leave you hungry, and you'd better bet you'd better stay that way.

Finally, one afternoon, you start eating your coffee with a spoon, figuring you'll sell the idea to the Grape-Nuts people, and that life is grand and you already have everything you need. But, no; if you want it when you got it, then it's not what you wanted anyway.

You do know, though, that you're running down the home stretch. Another semester (maybe two for good measure) and you'll finally arrive. And let's just say you got it. The thing you wanted? You got it. The thing you couldn't get when you wanted it. Maybe you distracted yourself long enough to get it. Now it's yours.

You sit there, basking in the glow of success, saying to yourself "This is what Dagny Taggart must have felt like in the back of John Galt's plane!" Oh yeah? Now what you gonna do?

Sit by the pool, do the things you want to do. Go out and show all your friends who hate you. Yeah, they're ambitious too. But that's the name of the game, isn't it? Everything changes hands, so watch out. Someone — anyone — might be your best friend, roommate, or the person with the next mailbox over. They want your pool. Maybe you doze off for five minutes, and when you wake up you realize, now you're hungry hungry hungry hungry hungry hungry hungry.

And that's how you started in the first place. Do you know what you're looking for, and what you're going to do with it when you get it? Ambition ... Ambition ... Ambition ...

by Josh Shear

Red Tape Blocks Learning

For the first time in 3 1/2 years, I found myself not wanting to be a part of this school or my major. Wherever I've gone and whatever I've done in my career here at WNEC, I have always been encouraged to strive for what makes me happy and what will be in my best interest.

One certain department from the School of Business (which will remain nameless) is at the center or my anger and frustration.

All I wanted to do was simply drop an elective class and pick up an independent study.

The elective was simply, as I found out, nothing I had an interest in. And as I see it, it's my education and my money and I should have the absolute right to drop that class. The independent study would have had more educational value for me.

Although it was somewhat last minute, it was still possible to get the paperwork done. I had everything set and was more than willing and excited to take on the extra work of my independent study project.

Instead, I found myself running into brick walls and in the middle of a huge ball of red tape. I was completely discouraged from doing this and bounced around and referred from one faculty member to the next.

How is it that a friend of mine

See TAPE, next page

Discontentment in Public Schools

This commentary is in response to the recent concerns brought up by the Lecture Series 2000 speaker, Eric Foner, two weeks ago. This editorial is based on what can be done to end the discontentment that students feel today due to the poor public school system. It also deals with what educators can do to make the student feel appreciated, which will in turn have a positive effect on the nation, and help its youth feel confident and not like they are treated as a number.

Much to my chagrin and others' it is quite apparent that the discontentment that has been surfacing over the past ten years or so is not our own fault, but the fault of this country and the way it is being run, especially concerning the educational system. For students, especially in high school, there is little hope in their views of a better life. A recent survey said that close to 60% of students do not think that they will live better than their parents. If you look back to the 1950s, almost every youngster said that they would live better, and they did so. Today that thought is merely a pipe dream.

Because I am now a sophomore I can still remember my high school days, and to tell the truth, they were quite miserable and really went nowhere. We were treated like criminals for such things as being late to class. I believe that such actions by educational institutions creates low self-esteem for the students. For aspiring college students, it is even harder to be content because we were always being held back from the education that we needed due to other students who could care less. My high school spent more time trying to educate students who didn't care than the ones who did, thus creating a vast mindset of discontentment.

I believe that public schools have a great deal of responsibility for this problem, and a great deal of work to do about it. Never mind private schools, we need to reform the public school structure and look for ways to take power out of the hands of bureaucrats and back into the hands of the parents and teachers. Public school students are becoming robotic in response to the schools' demands and all individualism is being stripped from them. This is not just a problem, but a crisis that needs to be attended to very quickly. We should be hiring teachers who care and who treat their students like they are more than numbers.

Essentially, I am saying that teachers in high school should present themselves and their concerns much like the professors do here at WNEC. If that would happen, I am sure that we would see a change. High school teachers really have little concern for the student and that is quite sad.

Forget courses on equality and justice and civil concern, just teach the kids! It's as easy as that: eliminate all these "social programs" that are so forcefully pushed in our faces by this bureaucratic government. Make learning for the student a personal and rewarding experience without talking about what our social role is. To be frank, everyone I have gone to school with just moans and groans when a "special" program is put on about our social responsibility. This responsibility is in a poor state of affairs today. It is quite apparent that all these programs are doing little to correct it. We are beating a dead horse.

The key is to make the student feel like he or she is someone, giving them confidence and self-esteem. The social responsibility part will fall into place because they will feel good about themselves, which in turn them feel good about others. If the public school tried this, then we would be on our way.

by Richard Adkins

TAPE, from previous page

was in the same exact situation last semester and was able to get his independent study the next day? The only difference was that he was in a different department. Therefore I do not blame the School of Business as a whole; some departments seem to have their stuff together.

In the course of a week I made 3-4 trips a day to the School of Business looking to talk to faculty, administration and finding office hours that would accomodate my schedule. It took time from my other classes and responsibilities on campus and it flat out completely frustrated me to the point of giving up. There are so many other things that I could be doing with my time.

The point of an independent study is to engage in academic and hands on work that isn't offered in the classrooms at WNEC. And if a student wants to expand his or her mind in that way, I think he or she should receive nothing but encouragement to do so.

To me, being prepared for the real world is getting real life experience, and this project would have helped me to experience that, but unfortunately some people just didn't see it that way and now I have missed this opportunity because of them.

I hope there are some faculty out there that read this and realize that they have guided us to the point that by our senior year we are able to think for ourselves and make educated decisions that we know will be in our best interest, if not theirs.

Anonymous

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

It's that time of year again, when presidential hopefuls flood the airways with political rhetoric, travel the country, pose for photographers, shake hands with strangers, and spend millions of dollars, all for one thing: your vote. The race is far from over, but we wondered who WNEC students are leaning toward as campaign 2000 consumes all media.

... Who Would You Vote For, And Why?

"I'd vote for Gore, because I like his ideas, and I just really hate Bush."
— Erica Hasman (left)

"I'd vote for McCain — he is the best one of them all, and has some decent ideas."
— Ryan Courtemanche (right)

"I'd vote for myself! Politics don't matter much to me, and I can get things accomplished without wasting time and money."
— Mike Suckay (left)

"I'd vote for Gore, because he is more for equality and minorities."
— Joe Travoglino (right)

"I don't know who I'd vote for, because I really don't care."
— Heather Lech (left)

First Annual Beauty, Health, And Fitness Expo Was Good, But Short

by Kata Lawlar
Staff Writer

Yes, I went. And no, I did not get a manicure. Or a haircut, for that matter (I waited for over an hour).

What I did get was checked —to make sure that my back was straight, and my body fat percentage normal. While the results are confidential, the information was good to know.

And I'm sure many others felt the same way; not only could we get all that checked, but we could also check for cholesterol levels, blood sugar levels, our vision and hearing tested, and even get a full body massage.

This all sounds great, but it wasn't exactly easy access — it was a wonderful effort on the part of the Student Senate, CAB, and the Wellness and Health Services, which served as our excellent hosts, but many people thought the time frame wasn't the best.

It took place from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm, a decent amount of time, but realistically there was too many people and too little time for really anyone to get a massage, a manicure, or a haircut. The other things were easy.

So while the thought and effort was great, we need more! Why not do two full days — either the time frame that it was or a larger time frame — so everyone who wants to get something done has a decent chance?

We loved the options, but the lists for the massages, manicures, and haircuts were so long that no one who came after 4:00 was able to get one done. It was impossible to do everything we wanted to do.

The other booths set up were wonderful; they were certainly something that was beneficial to everyone who took advantage of them.

So next time, and hopefully soon, we'll have a much bigger and longer Beauty Health and Fitness Expo — and maybe next time I'll get a manicure.

London Brings Brit Sounds to New England

by Jonathen Abbot
Contributing Writer

Photo by Beki Nagel

London

I recently interviewed the new hot and upcoming band London. They have just released a new album with Big Noise Records last November and we can expect to hear big things about them in the future.

With Mike Gransewicz and Rich Adkins on guitars and vocals, Jonny Hurey keeping the tempo on drums and percussion, and new band member Matt Sazooki on bass. London produces not only a distinctive, paralyzing sound, but also lyrics that will knock you over.

I had the chance to sit in on one of Londonis rehearsing sessions. I have sat with them before and have to admit that they were great. It is a great sound, and something magical just happens when the four of these guys jam out.

Later, I interviewed the band members. Here is what I found out.

* * *

Q: How did you come up with the group name iLondon?i

A: Well, we were sitting in Richis room and we were thinking about what kind of music it was and it had a British Ring to it. (Hurey)

Q: Who came up with the name?

A: I came up with the name and it just sounded right, so we went with it. (Hurey)

Q: How often do you guys spend practicing and where do you?

A: On an average, twice a week, for about two and a half hours at a pop, in the dining hall. Anyone can come and hang out and listen all you want. (Adkins)

Q: How would you classify London's sound?

A: It's a cross between Radiohead, the Pixies, Pavement, and Blur ... progressive modern rock. (Adkins/Gransewicz). It's kind of like "listen to it, change your life" kinda music. (Adkins)

Q: Who does the majority of songwriting for the band?

A: Rich will write a riff and I'll jazz it up a bit. (Gransewicz)

Q: Jonny Hurey ... who have been some of the influences in your drumming?

A: Well, my Dad, Buddy Rich, Sugar Baker, and Phil Collins. (Hurey)

Q: Matt, how do you like being a new member of London?

A: It's mint and itis really great to enter a bad that's organized ... because I'm lazy. (Sazooki)

Q: What is the group's favorite song/track to play from the new album?

A: Probably "Angeline" or "Here We Go." (Adkins/Gransewicz/Hurey/Sazooki)

Q: What does the future hold for London in the music spotlight?

A: We're gonna he the biggest band in the world once we get signed with a huge record label, I mean why not? (Adkins). We're gonna have the same method of songwriting. (Hurey).

* * *

London is going to be performing in Providence, Rhode Island, on March 18th at the Century Lounge, and another full set on March 19th, also in Providence. You can also check out London on the Big Noise Records web page at : www.hignoise.com/london.html

Local Band Makes Great Debut CD

by James Russell
Editor

Occasionally you come across a local band that is so great you want to share their music with everyone. Connecticut's Janie Superstar is one of those bands. Performing at the Meadows, the Webster, and other local venues, they have built up a name for themselves with vibrant and enthusiastic shows, playing form of acoustic power pop that anyone can enjoy. The band members are Uconn students Ian Cagnon on bass, Christopher Courmet on Lead Vocals and guitar, Derek Egerman on drums, and Sal Prizio on guitar, and a crew of friends that follows them to every performance.

I was introduced to Janie Superstar through their show at WNEC last year, which unfortunately, due to lack of publicity, did not get the attendance it deserved.

Those who went, however, were in for an awesome concert. Though live shows are definitely the band's strength, the energy of their performances is captured on their promising debut CD, Searchlight. The album begins with "Leaves," a song which seems to be about looking for friends by what they are on the inside instead of the outside. Next comes the disk's best track "Happy-go-lucky." It is impossible to feel sad after this joyful track about a great day.

The energy continues through "What to Say" about being unsure in a tough situation. The disk takes a slightly more melancholy tone on "Arizona" and "Something Better," the first being about trying to hang on when life is bad and friends donit have the answer, the deepest song of the album, and the second about sympathy. Both are great examples of Janie Superstar's lyrical strength, and my interpretations of them may be completely wrong because they make contemplate as well.

The initial enthusiasm returns with "Save Me Now," rounding off an impressive first album. A perfect mix of exuberant rock and thought-provoking lyrics make this disk a great addition to any CD collection.. The price can't be beat either six songs for six bucks. Hopefully "Searchlight" is a prelude to more great music from Janie Superstar and a return show at WNEC.

Still, you can't really experience Janie Superstar until you have been to one of their many local shows. You can find out more about the band and their tour schedule by going to their website, www.janiesuperstar.com.

Buy the album at any of their live shows or through the independent online music store, www.cdbaby.com.

An Alumna Asks: Is There Life After College?

by Natalie Pisarcik
Contributing Writer

Recently I was in Springfield and decided to drop by good old Western New England College. It felt strange being there as an alumna. There wasn't the same crowd, the same smokers out in front of the lecture halls, the same familiar faces walking by. They had been replaced by new and younger faces.

I visited a few people and wandered the campus. And during the visit someone asked me, "Natalie, why don't you write a story about life after WNEC for *The Westerner*?" Me? Life after WNEC? A story? Um ... sure, why not!

Let's see — life after WNEC. Well, it begins the day of graduation. You are handed an $80,000 piece of paper and sent off into the "Real World." And as the "big day" ends, you watch your peers walk off into the sunset and wonder, "Will I see them again? Will they come back to Homecoming?" You don't have the answer, you just know that the next step in your life awaits you, whether it's grad school, law school, or "working hard for the money."

Driving back to New Jersey, where a full-time job awaited the young inexperienced Environmental Scientist, I cried all the way. I realized that I had just graduated from college! It was unreal until that moment. There would be no more "Oh, I'll just skip class today and sleep in." Or skipping a whole day of classes to go to NYC, or scheduling classes so that I am able to sleep until noon.

There would be no more rolling out of bed and going to class in the same clothes that I had on at the bar the night before. No more all-nighters or cramming away in the library. No more exams, midterms, or finals. (I just want to say that I hate anyone that does not have to be tortured by cumulative final exams.) No more failing of exams or classes and having to worry, "Am I going to be able to graduate?" There will be no more crazy Gateway nights where you can walk to at least five parties in one night. All that remains are the memories (and, for some of us, videotape).

As for me? Life after WNEC? I miraculously have a job that I enjoy and that is in my major. I am 40 lb. Overweight, thanks to Aramark and Anheiser-Bush. I have enough college drinking stories to write a book (and more than enough pictures to go along with them, right Dr. Poirot?) I have a piece of paper that is worth close to $80,000. I receive mailings from WNEC every other week asking for money. Haven't I given you enough already? I'll be paying off those college loans till I retire. And most of all, I guess I'm happy.

Advice for future graduates? I mean, what is a "Life After" article without any advice? Well, take it or leave it — this goes for everyone, not just the future graduates.

Join campus clubs. Meet people! (Write for *The Westerner*!) Don't whine that you don't have time — make time! Time management is an excellent skill to develop, so start now!

Most importantly: INTERNSHIPS! Don't do it for the credits, don't do it for the resume, don't do it because Career and Human Resources thinks you should, do it for the EXPERIENCE! Internships allow you to gain experience in a field that you may be interested in. Not only do you gain experience, but you acquire connections in your field. Talk to people. Make good first impressions. SMILE! Learn how to kiss ass without being obvious.

Resumes? I hate them! They are biggest pain in the "you know what." There is no such thing as the "perfect" resume. You will spend more time working on this stinking little piece of paper than you will on any other paper in your whole life. Then just when you think you have the "job security" of a resume, someone up in Career and Human Resources won't like the font of your name. My question is, WHO CARES? Who the hell wants to work for someone who is completely anal about the font of your name, anyway?

Another thing is, don't try to impress people with your knowledge. Impress them with who you really are. You are not going to know everything, you're not supposed to. Just remember, if you don't know something or an answer, just look it up!

Other advice? Don't rely on others to get the job done for you. Do it yourself and do it well. Learn from you mistakes. Sir Humphry Davy once said, "I have learned more from my mistakes than from my successes." Don't think that because you have a degree you have to stop learning. You stop learning when you stop breathing. Continue to go to school. Read! (I recommend *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie.)

Get involved in organizations. Do community service. Don't go it because it "looks good on the resume," do it for yourself and for that warm and fuzzy feeling you get inside when someone says "thank you." Listen to what people have to say.

Remember, a good leader is a good listener. Appreciate what anyone does for you. Humans crave appreciation just as much as they crave food. Am I right?

The author, in her famous pre-graduate pose

Overall, I really can't complain much about WNEC. There were times when I wanted to, but who doesn't? WNEC was good to me. They took a quiet, shy, horrible SAT scorer who wanted to play field hockey for them and study Environmental Science, and made her into the crazy person she is today. No one else believed I could do it, but WNEC gave me a chance, and I didn't let them down. It was a hard four years, and I can't say it was ever easy. But it's these challenges that make life interesting. Don't ever give up, no matter how lousy things get. Remember, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger.

Finally, have FUN! Party! Be responsible for your actions. Never give up on your dreams, no matter how impossible they may seem. I read in a book once "the only place you'll find 'success' before 'work' is in the dictionary." I live by that quote.

To be successful is to be able to work hard. GPA scores don't mean anything out in the Real World. Also, laugh as much as you can, because laughter is the best medicine. Develop a sense of humor. Live life to the fullest, for you only live it once. (Hmm ... maybe I should conduct a Freshman Focus program on motivation? NOT!)

And remember ... it's not what you know, but WHO you know. Take care, drink a little, relax, and most of all, have as much fun as you possibly can, because, as someone once said, "all good things must come to an end."

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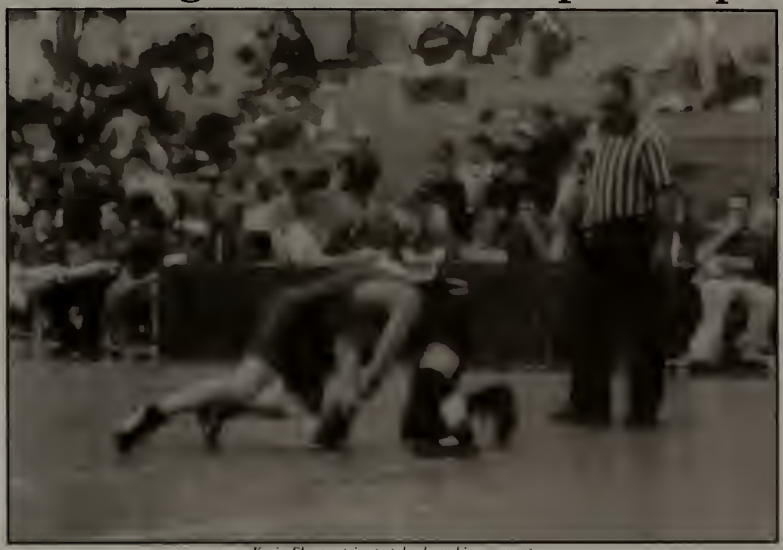
Golden Bears Fight Hard in Championship

by Kevin Hassatt
Sports Co-editor



Kevin Fleenor tries to take down his opponent

The New England College Conference Wrestling Association (NECCWA) held its annual championships this past weekend here at Western New England College.

This was the first time that WNEC has hosted this event since the conference was formed in 1979. The NECCWA is now the largest Division III conference in the country with 15 member colleges.

Since joining the conference in 1996, Springfield College has been the dominant force in this competition.

The Pride were looking to capture their fourth consecutive title this year.

The tournament ran pretty much non-stop all day Saturday and all day Sunday with the help of many student volunteers under the direction of Tournament Director Joe Sassi and Assistant Tournament Director Carl Fetteroll.

A lot of work was put forth to make this tournament a success and these people did an excellent job.

The AHLC was packed all weekend with wrestlers, coaches, trainers, and spectators. With up to four matches running simultaneously, it often seemed hard to keep track of what was going on.

The team trophy stood at the front podium for all to see, each team vying to be the one to hold it at the end. During each match, coaches, fans, and teammates alike would try to rally their combatant, shouting advice and encouragement at the top of their lungs.

At the end of the match each wrestler would shake hands with each other and with the opposing coaches, all in the name of good sportsmanship.

Each of the ten weight classes had its own separate double elimination bracket. The winners at each class plus five wild-card selections chosen by the coaches would receive automatic bids to National Division III Wrestling Championships to be held at Ohio Northern University on March 3-4.

Kevin Vees, Calvin Johnson, and Kevin Fleenor

In the finals at 125 pounds, Calvin Johnson (Springfield College) defended his title with a 17-0 shutout Kevin Vees (Johnson & Wales University).

At 133 pounds, Robert Ulrich (Norwich University) also successfully defended his title as he defeated Mike Marcucio (Trinity College) 6-3.

Keith Poloskey (Springfield) won 3-2 over Mark Foresi (Trinity) at 141 pounds.

At 149 pounds, Chad Sinclair (Norwich) defeated Nate Gorman (Bridgewater State College) by a score of 6-1.

Pete Doucet (Roger Williams University) picked up the win at 157 pounds with a 6-4 victory over Mike Bena (Springfield).

Chris Fertig (U.S. Coast Guard Academy) repeated as champion at 165 pounds, defeating Sean Nelligan (Worcester Polytechnic Institute) 10-1. John Roden (Springfield) captured his third straight title at 174 pounds with an 8-2 win over Brendan Harris (USCGA).

At 184 pounds, Conan Leary (Williams College) recorded the only pin of the finals just 1:47 into his match with Marco Salce (Plymouth State College). Neil Bergren (Springfield) won 7-6 over Ken Ojukwu (Williams) in perhaps the most exciting match of the finals at 197 pounds.

In the heavyweight division (285 pounds), Marcelle Roberson (Springfield) defeated Justin Ripley (WPI) 13-4.

The five wild-card selections were Bena, Foresi, Harris, Marcucio, and Ben Baker (3rd place at 174 pounds, Plymouth State College).

Although no WNEC wrestlers qualified for the nationals, two of our own just missed out on the finals.

Senior co-captain Kevin Fleenor finished third at 125 pounds, losing in the closing moments 2-1 against Vees for a birth in the finals.

Sassi said, "The coach from Johnson & Wales came to me a few minutes after the match and said he felt awful that his wrestler had beaten Fleenor and that he was a wonderful kid who works hard. We're all very proud of him as we are all of the wrestlers."

Junior Craig Rand also had a good weekend, finishing fifth at 285. Fetteroll said of Rand, "He showed more heart out there than 90 percent of the other wrestlers." Rand was involved in many close matches, some of which were forced into overtime or double overtime.

As for the team competition, Springfield College did in fact come away with its fourth straight title with 146.50 points.

Williams College came in second with 117.50 points followed by Norwich University with 113. WNEC finished in 12th place. The Golden Bears have never won this competition but have placed in the top three eight times, most recently in 1997.

The College received some great reviews from this event, due in large part through the efforts of Sassi and Fetteroll, and through the fact that the AHLC represents, as Sassi put it, "one of the top Division III athletic facilities in New England and perhaps the nation."

WNEC coach Bob Skelton talking about the success, said, "there have been nothing but rave reviews. In fact, people have asked us to host nationals here."

Athletic Director Michael Theulen summed things up by saying that "wrestling has a long tradition of excellence here at Western New England College and we wanted to be able to put forth a first-class event. This was an excellent opportunity to put the best of WNEC on display and we came through with flying colors."

Wrestling Alumni on Hand at Championships

by Kevin Hassett
Sports Co-editor

Several former wrestlers for the Golden Bears were on hand to present the awards for each weight class at this past weekend's New England College Conference Wrestling Association (NECCWA) Championships.

One of these men received an award himself.

Rodney Smith was named the 2000 NECCWA Man of the Year. Smith, who graduated from WNEC in 1988, won the bronze medal in Greco-Roman wrestling at the 1992 Summer Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain. He also wrestled in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta and is training for this year's Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

In addition to his Olympic accomplishments, Smith was also a three-time winner at 142 pounds at the NECCWA Championships and a two-time All-American. Smith also wrestled for the United States Army team.

Other wrestling alumni present included Tim Sullivan, Steve Fernandes, Seb Amato, Mitch Katz, Brian and Gary Solomon, Rey Santiago, Lt. Colonel Charles Africano, Lt. Bill Simpson, and Bryan Brunk.

Sullivan and Fernandes were both two-time All-New England and one-time All-American selections.

Amato was a New England Champion in 1984 who went undefeated his senior year. He was on the Canadian National team and is currently the head coach for Trinity College. Katz was a New England champion in 1986 and then became known as Jason "The Terrible" in the World Wrestling Federation.

Santiago was a two-time New England champ who went undefeated his last two seasons. He was also a member of the Puerto Rican National team and won the bronze medal at the World Law Enforcement Games in Alberta, Canada. Gary Solomon never lost a match in New England, becoming a four-time All-New England as well as a four-time All-American. His brother Brian was a three-time New England champ and a two-time All-American. He holds the school record with 39 consecutive dual-meet wins. In his senior year, Brian went undefeated all the way up until nationals, only to lose in overtime by referee's decision in the championship match.

Dr. Caprio and wrestling alumni

Africano was a two-time New England Champion and wrestled on the All-World team. He is currently coaching the All-Army team and is considered one of the world's top coaches. Simpson is currently a member of that All-Army team. He was a three-time New England champ and a two time All-American.

His only loss his senior year came in the semifinals of nationals to the eventual champion. Brunk is currently an assistant coach at the University of Southern Maine and wrestled his junior and senior year at WNEC, winning the 1997 and 1998 New England Championships in separate weight classes.

With the most Division III All-Americans in all of New England, the Golden Bears look to continue this tradition of excellence for many years to come.

Lacross Team Prepares

by Ryan O'Connor
Contributing Writer

The men's lax team has high hopes for this upcoming season, despite of having a mediocre season a year ago. Coach Tim O'Meara is coaching in his fourth season as head coach. This years team has a lot of potential to play in the Pilgrim league playoffs in early May. The Golden Bears only lost two starters from last year and have added six young freshman and also a transfer form Dean College. The senior tri-captains for this year consist of Tom Nolan who finished second in scoring a year ago with 29 goals and 16 assists, Mike Loock who had 18 goals and 10 assists, and Scott Magner who has great expectations for this year.

Practices started in the 3rd week of January for this young dedicated team. Unfortunately WNEC does not have a turf field in which the team could practice during the winter months, so they have practiced on turf at Springfield College several of times.

The regular season will begin on Saturday, February 26th at the WNEC shoot-out. WNEC has one of the toughest schedules they have ever had this year, playing a few schools from Virginia. The toughest opponent this year is Denison University, which will be played in Virginia during Spring Break. WNEC will also play Springfield College for the first time in school history in early April. Despite of playing tough school, the fact that they only have four home games doesn't make it any easier.

According to captain Tom Nolan, "we have a real young team and last year we had a hard time playing together because we never really played together, and this year we have a better understanding of what each players role is on the team."

The team has so much talent that three players are fighting for the spot of goal tender. Freshman Pat Dabrowski from Maryland is giving junior Jared Barringer and sophomore Matt Fogarty a run for their money.

Offensively for the Bears they have many quick agile players, sophomore Bill Locher who led the team in goals last year with thirty, seems to have a nose for the net. Along with Nolan and Loock, a group of sophomores have turned peoples heads from last year Kevin Savage, and John Anicito who both contributed twenty plus points.

Defense is one area on the team in which plans to shutdown its opposing front men. Returning seniors Magner, Aaron Garner, and Matt Musumeci could be known as the Iron Curtain defense, along with sophomore Kevin Sturmer.

While many teams have specific objectives in the beginning of the season, this year's lax team has one goal — to take it one game at a time. Looking at the powerful schedule they have, that's still a pretty big goal.

Swim Team Breaks Records

by Allison Morgan
Staff Writer

The Western New England Varsity Swim Team finishes their season, under second year coach Ben Bump, with a number of accomplishments to be proud of.

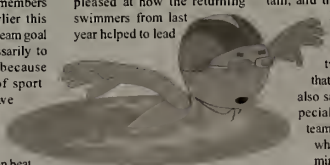
The season, according to Coach Bump, was an unqualified success because of how much improvement each of the members of the team made. Earlier this week he stated that "our team goal this year was not necessarily to improve our record, because swimming is a kind of sport where you really can't have any control over your competition. It's not like basketball where with good defense you can beat any team."

For this reason Coach Bump said, "Our goal was to improve our performance against every team [this year] — and in general we were successful in that way. Plus, almost everyone improved their performance this year as opposed to last year."

These improvements in performance resulted in breaking four school records this season. These records include Junior Captain Lisa Marie Contrino in the 200-yard backstroke, Freshman Megan Phair in the 200-yard Butterfly and Junior Michelle Cinkewicz completed the 1650-yard freestyle — which is the equivalent of a mile — in twenty minutes and fifteen seconds.

The fourth school record was set in the 800-yard freestyle relay, by Junior Captain Lynn Schneeweis, FreshmenColleen Hart and Suzanne Monahan, and Megan Phair. Coach bump explained that the team does not often compete in these events in which records are set, so he was especially pleased with the results.

Coach Bump said that he was pleased at how the returning swimmers from last year helped to lead



the team this season. He said that co-captains Lisa Marie Contrino and Lynn Schneeweis were instrumental in the success of the team, and that Contrino, who will not be returning to the team next year, will be badly missed. Bump also stated that he was impressed with the five incoming Freshmen to the team.

"Although I was not able to see them last year, the progress from the beginning of the year till the end was very impressive," said Bump. The coach said that Suzanne Monahan was one of the stronger Freshmen on the team, and one of the two Freshmen who helped to set the school record in the 800-yard freestyle relay.

First year captain Lynn Schneeweis agreed with her coach, in that the season went very well. She stated that aside from the records set, there were also a number of personal bests achieved by the members of the team, which helped to keep the team motivated.

Schneeweis explained that she saw things from a different perspective this year, as a captain, and that the enthusiastic Freshmen swimmers assisted in keeping the time spent between teammates all that more enjoyable. She also said that she was especially impressed with teammate Jessica Fasulo, who only began swimming competitively this year as a Freshman.

Coach Bump said that the high point of the season for himself and many of the women on the team was a win over Eastern Connecticut State, on February 9th. "Last year we lost to them by nine points, even though clearly we were the stronger team," he said. "This year we played them in our last regular meet an the whole team got very pumped up, and we won."

The swim team's last official appearance will be on the weekend of February 18th through the 20th, at the New England Championships in Brunswick, Maine. Seven of the ten team members will be competing, and we wish the team and Coach Bump the best of luck!

CLASSIFIEDS

This is your last chance!

Petitions for Student Senate 2000 - 2001 are due on Tues, Feb. 29 in Student Activities by 4:30pm. Petitions are still available, and plenty of seats are still open. Join the many who strive to make you aware and keep WNEC alive!

WNEK - 105.1 FM

Would you like to get involved with the campus radio station? WNEK is currently looking for unique individuals to fill the following positions: Alternative Director, News Director, P.S.A. Director, and select D.J. slots. If you are interested in getting -involved call 782-1582 or stop by.

PEN

Interested in joining the Peer Education Network? Join us in the Campus Center Rm.4 tues 5-6:30pm or call Craig Nakashian at 596-3235 or Sara Johnson at 732-4671 Anyone interested is welcome. Free pizza and drinks at all meetings.

Need Help?

Do you need belp in Math? If so stop by the WNEC Math Center located in H307. Professors and assistants are on hand to help. Call 782-1314 or stop by H307 for more information.

Help save the earth!

Join the Water Watch Organization on campus. We bave river clean-ups, teacb children about water quality, and monitor waterways. Call Chris to learn more at 781-5712.

ATTENTION WNEC

There is an OPEN MIKE Tuesday, March 7th at 8:00pm in the Bear's Den. Cookies, Coffie, Brownies and Tea. Bring a pillow!

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THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 45/Issue 3 • March 31, 2000

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Women set records

Survey Questions Effectiveness of Residence Life

Rendy Anderson, Steve Conuwell, Rebecce Dewson, Jen Doleve, Erice Freund

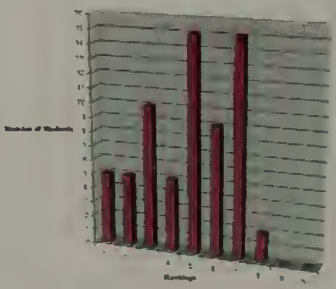
Contributing Writers

As Western New England College's population has increased, so has the importance of Residence Life. Over the past fifteen years, we have become more of a residential school than a commuter school. According to the Residence Life Office, students are happy, involved, and active in the community. However, in a survey we conducted for our Professional Communications Class, of a population sample of mostly upperclassmen, students have an array of opinions.

In the surveys we conducted, there were nine Freshmen, nine Sophomores, thirty-four Juniors, and fourteen Seniors. We asked these students to review the way Residence Life handles problems, fines, pairing with compatible roommates and activities offered to students. We found that overall, Residence Life is not very effective.

All of the participants that had moved off campus did so in their first two years of college. there were several reasons for the moves: it was cheaper to live off-campus, students would recieve more personal space, some hated the strict rules, and others were unable to arrange their living situation withfriends. some of the students were kicked off campus for not abiding by the college rules. The following information discusses what we discovered about the effectiveness of Residence Life.

Figure #4: Residence Life Ratings



On a scale of 1 to 10, how students rate Res Life.

Roommate Matching

During the summer, before the incoming Freshmen move their bags into the dorms for the first time, they are expected to attend SOAR (Summer Orientation And Registration). At SOAR they are given a survey by Residence Life.

It is a questionnaire that the incoming Freshmen or transfer student fills out in regard to his or her needs, habits, interests, hobbies, and the type of atmosphere that would make a comfortable living environment for him or her. We asked students of all four years if this survey has positively or negatively affected them. Thirty-six percent of students thought that their answers were not taken into consideration in matching them up with their roommate, whereas sixty-three percent of placing would have.

According to the statistics of Residence Life, WNEC has a much lower percentage of students

Continued on page 2

There May Not Be a Spring Concert

by Ryen Courtemenche

Contributing Writer

The Spring Concert has been a tradition at WNEC for a number of years. Past shows have included Steven Wright, Better Than Ezra, Chris Rock, Blessid Union of Souls, and most recently, OutKast.

These productions are generally funded by Student Senate and organized through our Concert Commitee, where more often than not, the chair, or previous chair of the Campus Activities Board (CAB), has taken the lead role in planning the event.

This year Student Senate has voted not to allocate funds to CAB for the purpose of a Spring Concert/ Comedian. This may or may not affect whether there will be a Spring Concert or Comedian. Nevertheless, campus-wide knowledge of this possibility is vital to keep communication open.

Concerts are a huge production. Not only do you have to buy the talent, which for a good name can cost anywhere from $10,000 to $175,000 (no joke), but lights, sound, staging, publicity etc. are also on the price tag. In order to get name recognition for a conert or a comedian, the large sum of money has to be put forth to produce a show.

This is not to say that all Senators did not want a spring production, in fact many do, but as a whole, it was decided by two votes that we should not provide funding for this event.

See CONCERT Page. 4

Better Than Ezra performing in the Spring Concert three years ago

Continuad from page 1

who switch roommates than do other colleges.

Roommate Problems

We then asked these students if they ever had any serious problems with their roommates. If they had, we wanted to know if they used Residence Life as a resource. About half the students had serious problems with their roommates. Some of the problems resident students experienced ranged from cleanliness to conflicting personalities, personal habits, and even stealing.

Fifty-nine percent of the students that had problems and contacted Residence Life, they said that they were not helpful. Yet, one must remember that ot all of these students who had serious problems used Residence Life, or their Resident Advisor to their benefit.

Fines

We then explored the fines they paid to Residence Life and what they were for. Unfortunately we discovered that the students had a very negative opinion regarding the fines that Residence Life gives out. Of the sixty-six students interviewed, forty students paid a fine of some sort. Out of these forty students, only twelve thought that the fines were fair.

Fifteen people confroned Residence Life about the fines, only three cases resulted in a reduction or elimination of a fine. Most of our interviewees paid fines for the following: illegal furniture, a broad range of room damage, glass hottles, and candles.

Other fines that were assessed included excessive noise, messy hall, and parking. The fines of forty individuals amounted o $5,313, under $130 per student. This dollar figure is an accumulation over many different years. We discovered that the amount of the fines is an administrative decision.

When every student moves into their dorm or apartment, they are given a housing agreement from Residence Life that they must sign. This explains to the students the room's rules and regulations. Theretore, the students do sign a contract with the school and Residence Life. When students recieve fines that they wish to appeal, they are told to write a letter of appeal.

Activities

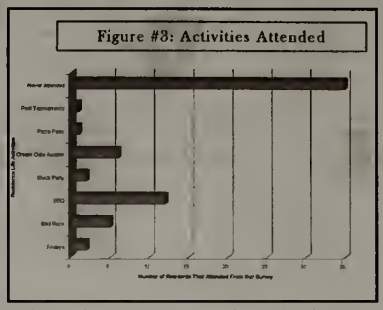
Activities are an essential part of getting involved in the college community. We asked students if they had attended any Residence Life Activities. We found that only half of the students interviewed had attended activities associated with Residence Life. Most of the students that participated in these activities attended barbeques, the Dream Date Auction, and the Bed Race.

We then asked if they felt Residence Life helped them get involved at college. The overwhelming majority of the students thought that Residence Life did not help them get involved in their college community. In fact, only ten students thought that Residence Life did help. However, Residence Life does promote their activities through "This Week @ WNEC" posters, and word of mouth. In the fall of 1999, they offered 151 programs, and 2,496 students attended. Unfortunately, we do not know what portion of those students were residents and which were commuters.

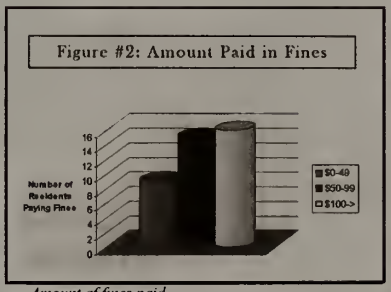
An average of only seventeen students attended each activity! Obviously the popular events draw hundreds of people and therefore the others draw fewer, if any.

Residence Life Rating

We concluded our interview by asking the question, "On a scale of 1-10, 1 being the lowest and 10 the highest, how would you rank Residence Life? The Result was that forty students gave Residence Life a ranking of 5 or less. On the basis of this question, we conclude that students are not satisfied with the performance of the Residence Life Office.



The papularity af Res Life attendance ranked by event



Amount af fines paid

March is Social Work Month

by Bridget Meyer and Margarat Babyak

March is not only for college basketball, it is also National Social Work Month. Many people often ask the question, "What is a Social Worker?". Social Workers are trained professionals who have bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degrees in Social Work.

There are many different types of settings where you may find a social worker. Some of these places can be in schools, hospitals, businesses, nursing homes, courts, and prisons.

Social workers can work in a public agency or have their own private practice. Social workers do not just give out welfare checks. Social Workers work with many different types of problems.

Some that they may come into contact with are substance abuse, family conflicts, workplace tension, health problems, mental illness, violence and many more. Other areas that you may find a social worker in are public policy, administration, research, and advocacy.

In 1955 the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) was founded. Its main office is located in Washington D.C., but it has fifty-five other chapters in the United States and abroad. There are over 160,000 NASW members around the world. 8,500 in Massachusetts.

The NASW has a mission statment as follows. "NASW is a membership organization that promotes, develops, and protects the practice of social work and social workers. NASW also seeks to enhance the effective functioning and well-being of individuals, families, and communities through its advocacy".

In celebration of National Social Work Month, there will he a table set up in the campus center on March 28-30th. Stop by at this table to learn more ahout the profession of social work.

Water Watch Tests Knowledge

by Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

The Western New England College Community Water Watch recently conducted a survey of water knowledge among students, faculty, and staff at WNEC. The questions were garnered from information that the group circulated in the preceding weeks, affixed to free bottled water. Thegroup boasted over two hundred surveys completed and returned, a return rate of over ten percent of the student body.

The purpose behind the survey was both to test and to educate. By determining how much people know about their environment and water supply, the group is more able to focus education at those areas in which it isneeded. The questions derived from information provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The first question asked what percentage of water on the planet isusable fresh water. The answer was a paltry one percent, but only twenty-one percent of our respondents answered correctly. Another twenty-two percent were fairly close with an answer of five percent. Thecorrect answer derives from the fact that ninety-seven percent of the wateron the planet is contained in oceans, while a further two percent is found in glaciers.

The second question asked what the amount of water on the planet wasnow in relation to when it was formed. The correct answer was "the sameamount". Nearly one third of our respondents answered correctly, with the next most popular answer being "half as much". The answer comes from the fact that the water cycle is constantly renewing the water supply, but theabsolute amount of water has not changed statistically since the formation of the planet.

The third question elicited the most surprising results. The question asked how much water an average person uses per day. The correct answer was one hundred and sixty eight gallons. Only fourteen percent got this question right, with the far and away most popular answer being a modest fifty gallons. We often do not realize that our water usage adds up very quickly. A simple ten minute shower alone accounts for about forty gallons used.

The fourth question, whether or not we are using our groundwater faster than we are recharging it, showed a positive return rate of over ninety percent correct. The danger behind using groundwater without replacing it is that aquifers can collapse. The collapse of an aquifer can decrease the amount of underground storage space for water, as well as lead to sinkholes.

The last question asked what percentage of the Earth's surface is covered by water. Most people answered in the correct range of seventy-five and eighty percent. It is important that we not forget thatover three-quarters of the entire surface of this planet is covered in water.

What this survey shows is that we have a long way to go in raising awareness about issues surrounding our water supply. While the answers could be considered discouraging, we are very pleased at the level of interest and huge response that this survey garnered. The environment is all of our concern, and as in solving any problem, knowledge is the necessary first step.

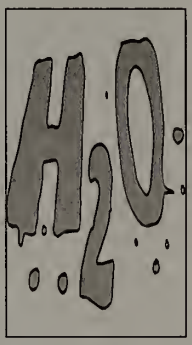
Water Facts

Approximately 80% of the Earth's surface is covered by water.

-Only one percent of this is fresh water we can use 97% is salt water 2% is frozen in glaciers

-Earth's fresh water supplyis limited and threatened by pollution.

-Today, we have approximately the same amount of water as when the Earth was formed;



Earth will not get any more water.

-Water moves in a never-ending cycle; nature recycles it over and over again.

-The water you drink may have been a drink for a dinosaur.

-You use an average of 168 gallons of water a day.

-In the United States, we use approximately 25 trillion gallons of water each year.

-We are using our fresh water faster than we are recharging our groundwater.

-In the United States, more than fifty percent of our wetlands that recharge and purify groundwater have been destroyed.

(Information provided by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service)

Students and Sex

Are WNEC Students Sexualy Responsible?

by Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

Recently the Peer Education Network informally polled a cross-section of students to determine how sexual responsibility is defined on this campus. In addition to getting a broad idea of how people define responsibility in regards to sex, the questions also asked he respondent if their peers were responsible according to the definition they provided, and if they were themselves.

The first question asked very simply, "How would you define sexual responsibility?". The answers ranged from simple "abstinence" to "Getting with every girl possible!".

Most of the students polled felt that sexual responsibility involved mutual respect, the use of contraception, and the ability to stay within a person's sexual boundaries. Some specific responses were "No means No", "Protecting yourself and making sure you aren't putting others at risk.", and "having respect for the limitations of your partner and yourself".

The answers to the two subsequent questions; "Do you think that most WNEC students are sexually responsible?" and "are you?", provided an interesting breakdown. Over half of the students polled answered that they did not feel that most WNEC students practiced sexual responsibility according to the definition they provided. While answering thus, fully three-fourths of the respondents felt that they themselves practiced sexual responsibility.

This response is troubling because it tells us that most WNEC students have a rather low opinion of the level of responsibility of their peers. Since someone would presumably know their own level of sexual responsibility rather than someone else's, the three-fourths result is probably closer to the norm. Unfortunately, the perceptions held by the polled students tell us a lot about how we present ourselves to our peers.

WNEC students tended to fall within the national average in the practice of what is commonly determined to be sexual responsibility, the use of contraception against disease and pregnancy. The national figures of students who practiced this for of sexual responsibility were roughly equivalent to the figures garnered from this informal poll.

One lesson we can take from this poll is that we tend to view our fellow students as less responsible than ourselves. It is up to all of us to show our peers that we are in fact making informed decisions regarding sex. We must change the misperception that we are sex-crazed irresponsible teenagers, to one of being mature, informed, and conscientious adults.

THE WESTERNER

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A Summer Course in London

by Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

There is a fantastic opportunity for a select number of Western New England College students this summer. Professor of Medieval History, Ted Johnson-South, is teaching a two week Humanities course entitled, "London Through the Ages".

The class will be conducted at Richmond College in London, England between June 30 and July 16. The course is cross-listed asHum 294/Hist 294, and can be counted as either a Cultures course or as aHistory course.

The scope of the class will be to study the history and culture of London "From the Romans to the Rolling Stones". Each time period studied will be accompanied by a "walking tour" of London. The tours will range from forgotten streets and squares, to famous sites such as the Tower ofLondon, Westminster Abbey, the rebuilt Globe theater, St. Paul's Cathedral, and many others.

One student who took the class last year, Jason Fuller, shared some of his experiences. He described the trip as; "Not really a class anymore,it's a bunch of people learning together." The class time was held everyother day, two sessions per day at two hours per session. The lectures and discussions were bolstered by site visits and walking tours on alternatedays. Jason described the outings as both socially and academically inspiring. The trip was at once "a lot of fun" as well as "very educational."

Professor Johnson-South examines the social and daily life of the inhabitants of London throughout the ages, even up to the present day. Thecourse promises to be a fun-filled and fascinating two weeks offered in one of the most famous and entertaining cities on Earth. This incredible opportunity is not one to be missed.

The space in the course is extremely limited, so those interested in going have to contact Professor Johnson-South as soon as possible at extension-1593 or email him at south@wnec.edu The deadline for registration is May 31.

Last year's students in front of Big Ben and the Parlaiment.

Spring Concert In Doubt

CONCERT Cont.

Now where does this leave the student body, who looks forward to this event every year and is now looking at the possibility of it not happening? It is up to you to decide what you want to do about it.

You can complain and do nothing, or you can become involved in the decision making process by talking to Senators and/or attending meetings. Even if you do not hold a seat on Student Senate, your voice is still important.

One of the roles of the particular Senators who represent you is to gain feedback and suggestions from their constituents. There is a list of this year's representatives posted outside the snack bar. Education has beena big part of my time in office.

The goal is not only educating Senators, but the entire student body as well. We can ony do so much before people need to step up and take an active part in what goes on at Western New England College.

This is issue can be looked at in a number of ways. If you repress your emotions, then your peers that were voted in by you will never gain feedback. Or you can express your thoughts and feelings by talking to your Senators, while finding out their ideas on the subject at hand.

Since we all educate each other on this campus, thinking that your does not count in Student Senate leaves us learning little about your ideas. I encourage all of you to voice your concerns.

The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

What did you do over Spring Break?

"Went to Woburn and then to New York City".
- Josh Ackley

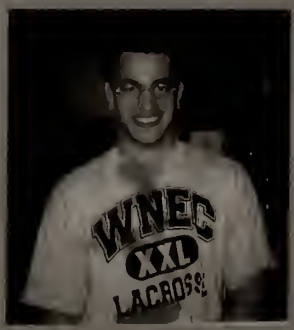
"Went to California with friends. Saw the San Diego Zoo, Alcatraz, and Universal Studios".

- Laura Wiseman

"Went home and worked".
- Karen Vibbard

"Went to Dalton, MA".
- Brenda Hayes, Left
"Went to Washington, DC".
- Lynn Schneewies, Right

Went home to uptstate NY, worked, and had fun".
- Brian Ploutz



"Went to Disney World".
-Frank Finochi

A Challenge to WNEC

Prof. Meeropol

Contributing Writer

I originally wrote this "guest editorial" or "opinion piece" for THE WESTERNER to stir the conversational pot in anticipation of Dr. Beverly Tatum's visit to the campus. Even though it will appear after her visit, I still believe it is worth it to examine further her analysis.

A significant number of Freshmen and some students from other classes have read her book Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? The Freshmen participated in discussions with college employees , staff, administrators, faculty. I led one of the discussion groups.

I want to share my views on these discussions and more importantly on the message in Dr. Tatum's book First of all, too many of the people who read Dr. Tatum's book were immediately offended because as many white students complained, "She calls all white people racists".

I asked my discussion group to show me the passage where she called all white people racist. No one could. So I read the following passage out loud (from pages 11 and 12): " I'm often asked 'Are you saying all Whites are racist" I am conscious that perhaps the question I am really being asked is, "Are you saying all Whites are bad people?? The answer to that question is of course not.

However, all White people, intentionally or unintentionally, do benefit from racism not all Whites are actively racist. Many are passively racist. Some, though not enough, are actively antiracist." It is clear that she did NOT call all white people racist. In fact, she acknowledged that some white people are actively anti-racist.

She uses a great image, in my opinion - a conveyor-belt in an airport. The conveyor-belt represents the general racism in society which leads to ADVANTAGES that all white people share just by virtue of having a white skin.

A white person can stand on the conveyor-belt and be moved along. You can walk (or run) in the same direction (those are the actively racist folks who tell racist jokes and use racist language, discriminate against people in hiring, or even engage in violent acts.).

For Tatum, to be actively anti-racist, whites have to TURN AROUND and walk against the flow of the conveyor belt FASTER than it is moving. This is not easy " it takes concerted effort" and it's not guaranteed to succeed. Perhaps the students who took offense were made uncomfortable by the idea of equating passivity with support for racism.

That is worth discussing but first we have to be accurate in our understanding of what Dr. Tatum actually said. Tatum believes that the conveyor belt is moving because our society confers a significant ADVANTAGE to those with a white skin. Here the Freshmen in my discussion group gave examples of that advantage which they had seen - in stores, in law enforcement, etc. all examples of the fact that being black puts individuals on the short end of the stick.

I am now teaching a one-credit course, and on the Manhattan discussion associated with the course, a number of white students are sharing the fact that relatives, even parents and grandparents routinely speak disparagingly of blacks with racist language.

One student has just told about the manager of the store where he works routinely firing all the black employees and ordering him to watch black customers.

Given the preconceptions that white people have when they see someone with iblacki features, given the differential treatment hy store clerks and law enforcement, and given the danger that one will encounter a truly active racist in a position of power, (one who believes in the actual inferiority of people of noticeable African descent) people of color in our society have built in disadvantages that can impact them any day, any where, no matter what their income, dress, education, accomplishments or character.

Now, there are people on this campus who disagree with the paragraph I have just written. Some have expressed themselves on some campus discussion lists over the internet. Two have written to the Westerner to complain about Mr. Rafael Osorio's honest and heart-felt statement. Some no doubt will have expressed their disagreements to Dr. Tatum directly.

Perhaps they believe that the advantages white people used to have because of the racism that existed in the bad old days (before we all became equal with the triumph of the Civil Rights Movement and Dr. Martin Luther King) are all gone now. People who believe that must defend their opinion with facts.

Cite the numbers of white people who have been "mistakenly" shot down by black police officers. Tell us about the schools in predominantly white suburbs starved for funds where kids are less likely to learn to read than in the predominantly black inner city schools next door.

Show us that black CEOs of major corporations represent more than 12% of all CEOs (12% is the percentage of African Americans in the population). Show us that 62% of the criminals in prison for drug law violations are white (that's the percentage of the people arrested for drug law violations who are white). Show us that less than 12% of the people on Death Row in the US are black.

Dr. Tatum's visit was an opportunity to engage the issues highlighted here. I hope all members of the college community will come away from her visit ready and willing to learn about the issues that prompted the President of the United States to call for a national dialogue on race.

A college represents a safe opportunity to share your own experiences and to learn from others.

Lecturers from all parts of the campus! Please take advantage of these opportunities during the next month to continue the discussion begun by Dr. Tatum.

Sincerely, Mike Meeropol (instructor in CL 201, Continuing the National Dialog on Race)

From the Editor

As shown by the many new tans around the WNEC campus, many students at our college decided to spend their one week of Spring Break in Cancun. The excitement for the obligatory Mexican beach resort trip begins around midwinter, when loudly colored and gaudy fliers start appearing around the campus center.

Showing scantily clad young people cavorting around the beach, they advertise package deals like "5 days in Cancun, $300*!" If anyone bothers to check what that asterisk is referring to down in the microscopic fine print at the bottom of the page, they will find a mass of hidden charges that make this carefree break exorbitantly more expensive than it originally looks.

If the nubile college kids on the fliers and the blatant pricing lies do not catch your eye in the dead of winter, than this last line illuminates what the whole trip is really about - unlimited free drinks for the first 24 hours!

So like a pack of migrating animal, thousands of college kids fight their way through airports, onto cramped flights, through irregular weather to visit our neighbors south of the border, or at least their beaches and bars. In the past few years a variety of southern resorts have competed for the lucrative college party market .

Acapulco, Daytona Beach, and South Padre Island to name a few. Recently Cancun has won out over all. This is strange, because twenty years ago Cancun was not even a resort, and barely even a town. it was just a few of fishermen's cottages on the edge of the Gulf of Mexico in the state of Quintana Roo. Then the Mexican government decided that it needed a new source of revenue, so it entered all the weather and climate date from all over the nation into a computer and let it generate the perfect spot for a new resort, and the computer chose Cancun.

From the initial computer-generated spot the whole place has grown similarly artificially, a place cut off from the rest of Mexico

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specifically to cater to wealthy Americans.

Basically it is a machine that is designed to separate you from your money and convince you that you are having a good time doing it. In fact, Cancun has tried all it can to separate itself from the rest of the nation. Despite a few Taco-Bellish restaurants, there is nothing Mexican about the place. When you get off the airplane you see a mass of billboards adverstising attractions that the average Mexican worker not pay for in a year, and then a mass of bars and beaches.

The only time you will ever see a Mayan native of the area is when he is serving you. Talk about racism! The indigenous people out of poverty have to serve foreigners, on their own lan, doing things they will never be able to do, in a subservient position.

The rich Americans spend all their money on drinks when there are villages just a few miles away where the people are struggling to pay for food. It is possible to go on a trip to Cancun without doing anything Mexican, ever. You will not have to speak Spanish, see any local attractions, or even leave your hotel. It is like being stuck inside a tourist trap.

All you have to do is just lie on the beach, get drunk, and ignore the world around you. There are shopping malls that could be like something you would see down the street. Which begs the question, if you like America so much, then why did you ever pay so much money to leave it?

That loss is the worst loss of all, because the Yucatan peninsula and the area around Cancun have one of the richest cultures you can find nearby. This was the heart of the Yucatec Mayan empire with amazing ruins from that ancient culture, and a thriving and vibrant culture today. I luckily had a chance to experience this culture when I went on the Mayan World field course last year.

Just a short bus ride out of Cancun can take you to Chichen Itza, where you can climb an ancient pyramid, see the places where people were sacrificed, read ancient glyphs, and crawl through the center of an ancient temple. Just a little farther takes you to Uxmal, another startling ancient city.

Then there are other amazing local sites, from village markets where the people wear their native dress and speak the indigenous language to a magnificent phosphorescent underwater cave you can swim it. Amazing places of learning and wonder are everywhere, and easily accessible.

However, I would guess that ninety percent or more of American tourisst never see them, or barely ever leave their heach and Senor Frog's. They are definitely missing out on some of the most incredible things they could ever see.

So if, like seemingly everyone in the WNEC populace, you find yourself in the artificial paradise of Cancun next spring break, read the fine print, pick up a little Spanisb, take a day to leave the hyped up touristy places, and visit a Mayan site such as Chichen Itza. It is only a few hucks to get there, but the memories and things that you can learn will last a lifetime.

Join the ongoing Internet discussion and debate about the issues raised by the Lecture Series 2000 speakers!

Send an email with the word "subscribe" to lectureseries2000 @wnec.edu and attend Prof. Meeropol's colloquium on the National Dialogue on Race

Thursdays at 1:00 in Sleith 100

Can you remember Spring Break?

Jocelyn Jacques

Staff Writer

Welcome back fellow WNEC students. After a wonderful week away, doesn't it feel great to get right back into the swing of school? Come on, you know you missed school. I bet many of you out there still set your alarms during break just so you could press the snooze button out of habit. Don't deny it. How many of you found that the first Monday of the week, you jumped up out of bed at 7:57am only to realize that you could sleep later?

Or how many of you looked at the clock and said to yourself, "Right now I'd be in Calculus" and then have a feeling of great satisfaction knowing that you won't get in trouble for not being there? I'll admit, I may have done similar things. Nothing feels as great as the feeling you get when you step back on Campus. Nothing compares to it either.

For many of you out there in WNEC-land, your arrival back on Campus was one of joy. These are the people who went home and vegged in front of the television for all seven days. They are also the people who found themselves being bored out of their mind because none of their friends were home with them. Therefore, their return back to school was great because they'll have people with whom they can socialize.

Others of you were as common surveys put it, "satisfied" with your time off and really didn't care about the week one way or another. These are the people who worked during their week. These lucky ducks came back from the break with some cash. For the rest of us poor students, we envy these folk. Their wallets actually have something in it other than dust and old receipts. The engineers came back from break without the usual bags under their eyes.

Now it's hard to differentiate them from other students.The final crowd of people to be mentioned has to be the partiers. They wish they could stay on break forever and never come back. Without them, Spring Break would not be the huge deal it is today. These Kats embrace seven days away from school with open arms. If you ask them how their week was, they have the biggest smile on their face and exclaim, "Wicked Awesome."

You can usually pick out who these people are. A dead give away is the excessive tan. For many (including myself) being around these people makes you feel a little jealous. You know that they went away to somewhere warm, where there was warmth. I don't know about you, but I spent four days of my vacation in Buffalo.

Do you know how cold Buffalo is in March? I can honestly tell you, I get a little jealous sitting next to these people. Anyway, another really dead give away would be the numerous stamp marks on their hands. If there are so many marks that you can't even count them, they probably went to the all week party in Florida. Finally, in listening to their stories, I find that many of them lack details of the week.

They tend to leave time out of their stories. Instead of saying, "Friday around 10:00, we all went out to dinner", they would say, "Then one day when it was night again, we went to this one bar". Their week went by in a blur. But they had a wicked good time. Just ask them. Once we all returned to lovely Springfield, doesn't it seem as though we never left?

I came back Sunday and walked in the door as if nothing ever happened. A whole week had passed and I felt as though I had left for a day. Let me tell you, that is the creepiest feeling ever felt by anyone. Yikes! Unpacking is always a joy too. You have to lug all the stuff you brought home back and then try to find a place for it. I always forget where things went in my closet. It's a pain trying to figure it out too.

It's terrible really. Don't laugh, it may happen to you someday. So watch out!Finally, after all of the unpacking is finished, and all of your homework completed, the calls begin, and the stories are shared. When you attend your classes the next day, everyone asks you, "How was your Spring Break?" You would think that after all of the years that Spring Break has been in existence, someone, somewhere would come up with a better question.

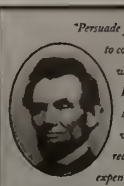
For example, how about asking, "What do you remember best about your vacation?" or "Hey! That's a great pair of shoes. Did you get them on sale?" Both can spark up any great conversation. You'll see. You only have a small window by which you can ask people about their vacation. Why not ask some varying questions to liven things up a smidge?

Also, I must write about the worst and most embarrassing faux pas anyone out there can ever commit. I'm sorry to say that I am guilty of doing so. You see all of your friends right? You tell everyone all the exciting or non-exciting stuff that occurred during the week. However, after a few versions of the story, you forget whom you've already told, and whom you haven't. It's quite embarrassing because those youive already told give you this, "Yah, I know, you already told me!"

That's what they tell you. Here's what they're really thinking, "How many times are they going to tell me that stupid story. I mean honestly, thereis only so many times a person can hear the same thing again and again." The truth hurts sometimes, and I'm sorry to say that it's best to receive it from your friends.

After all is said and done, Spring Break is certainly an experience. Whether you went home to he a bum on your sofa, or you flew down to Florida or some other exotic paradise, your break was what you made of it. Take me for example, I went to Buffalo. I bought, "Why go to Hawaii when I can go to Buffalo?" and I had a great time out there.

Spring Break is seven days of relaxation, sleep that is long overdue, staying up past your bedtime, and spending lots of money you don't have. When you return to school, your buddies are there, anxiously waiting to hear of your fabulous experiences.



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– Abraham Lincoln

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Dertermination Leads WNEC Student to Hall of Fame

by Sarah Miranda
Contributing Writer

Chris Goff, a senior sport management major who has recently completed an internship at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. It was a challenging internship to obtain, but through his determination as well as the assistance of Eileen Maloney and assistant athletic director Joe Sassi, he successfully got the internship that he wanted.

He started by visiting the Career and Human Resources department during the second semester of his junior year and speaking with Eileen Maloney, Career Counselor for business majors, about interning at the Basketball Hall of Fame.

Before Chris, no other sport management student from WNEC had interned there and consequently Eileen Maloney needed to establish a professional relationship with the management at the Hall of Fame.

At WNEC, Sport Management students are required to complete a sport practicum at the Alumni Healthful Living Center before taking an internship position. Chris successfully completed this course as well as earned the respect of Coach Sassi, who played a major role in helping him obtain it.

Sassi says that he will go "above and beyond" for those students who do the same for him during their practicum. As a result Coach Sassi made numerous phone calls to the Hall of Fame management staff to recommend him for the internship position based on his performance.

Another factor which helped Chris obtain his internship was that he originally volunteered to work one day a week during the summer months in order to secure the internship for the fall.

As a result of this commitment and Coach Sassi's recommendations, the manager of events and group programs, Craig Fink offered Chris a paid full-time summer position with a non-paid internship during the fall. After almost five months of persistence, Chris finally recieved the internship he wanted.

In the beginning he was given limited responsibility, which provided him with valuable experience for his resume. In September he assisted with the event management of Enshrinement Weekend 1999 which is the Hall of Fame's premier event where they induct the new class members into the Hall.

Some highlights during his internship included meeting basketball legends Dr. J and Kevin McHale as well as current stars Tim Hardaway and Patrick Ewing. He also established professional contacts within the sports industry who are currently helping him obtain a job for after graduation.

Internships are not only fun and challenging but they are also important in building an effective resume, developing professional contacts and acquiring the right job after college. The Career and Human Resource department is designed to assist students in finding the best internship.

Chris Goff is one of many students who have successfully found an internship that will be beneficial in building their resume after graduation.

Chris Goff (right) meeting Kevin McHale (left) at the Basketball Hall of Fame where he recently finished his internship.

Is WNEK as Dead as The Airwaves?

Eric Johnson
Advertising Manager

On return from spring break, students here at WNEC were greeted by silent airwaves. WNEK's voice over our airwaves is still, for the time being, a quiet ghost in our memoris.

Does this mean that WNEK is silenced for good? While hopeful students are awaiting the return of their radio station, that question sits waiting for an answer.

Josh Ackley, Music Director for WNEK says "For unknown reasons, problems with the station's transmitter on the side of Berkshire Hall have left the airwaves silent since the end of spring break." He continues to say however, that "consultation with an outside technician is in progress," and the hope is that the station will be up and running soon.

Whether the transmitter will be able to be repaired or not, the station wishes to asure its listeners that they will be up and running soon.

Thechance of being back on the air by March 31st is a good possibility. On the off chance that WNEK remains silent after this date, the station intends to do everything it ean to return its services to the college comunity as soon as possible.

One Alternative DJ commented that she was "curious as to why we were shut down," but after talking with the executive board of WNEK, she feels the station is doing everything they can with what they have.

James Russell, World Music DJ felt slightly different. "I was a little irritated," he commented regretfully, "I just hope they get it fixed soon."

James went on to say, "I don't think it was anyones fault . . . it probably just wore out."

Just because WNEK is not broadcasting doesn't mean they aren't doing anything. A fundraising car wash is schedualed for April 18th out side of Emerson Hall. The cost of the car wash is a donation.

Josh urges everyone to come out and get your car washed. It's for a good cause and "there will be good music and plenty of wet soapy people."

Spring 2000 On-Air Schedual WNEK-FM 105.1

Time	Mon-	Tues-	Wednes-	Thurs-	Friday	Satur-	Sunday	Time
8am-		John	Shelly		Blake Cruckshank	Off Air	Off Air	8am-
10am-			Jennifer O'Brien	Khalilah Fullard	Nit A-	Dave & Richard		10am-
12pm-	Peter Cyhulski	Various	Valarie Vojdik	Various	Monica V.	Lamar	Lila Wolan	12pm-
2pm-	Joseph Strong	Lindsay Maguire	Shanekha	Arron	Diana & Tami	J. Williams & Scott	Chris &	2pm-
4pm-	Brian B. & Dave F.	Eric Small	Joel Talk &	James	Gio	Jas &	Sarah Miranda	4pm-
6pm-		Chris M.	Chrissy	Gina B.	Tom &	Jason Neal	Colorline	6pm-
8pm-	Dean	Chris aO.	Corey Goldstein		Joe T.	G. Thompson	Robert Tierney	8pm-
10pm-	Tim Rogers Classic		Jonathon B	Josh	Various	Jerome	Brian	10pm-

Students Thanked For Help

Karen Talbot
Admissions Dept.

A big Thank-You to the following student volunteers for hosting a prospective student through the Campus Overnight Program:

Kevin Bennison, Jen Berbue, Joe Bezjian, Joel Dusoe, Kerrin Fletcher, Melissa Harris, Katie Klem, Alison Martin, Sue Mudgett, Mike O'Brien, Pat O'Neill, Chris Orth, Jen Reubish, Kelly Savage, Lindsay Simmons, Amanda Teker, Mike Thomas, Clifton Vachon, Laura Zwillinger

If you are interesting in hosting an accepted high school student overnight, please call Karen or Victoria at the Admissions Office: 782-1321

Sophomore Auction

John Baick
Sophomore Class Advisor

The Sophomore class is sponsoring a silent auction to be held Monday March 27th through Friday March 31st from 10 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Campus Center mall area. The proceeds will go to the United Way. The items up for auction will be "theme" baskets containing donations from local businesses.

Examples of these baskets include sports memorabilia and tickets to the Basketball Hall of Fame, and dinner and tickets to City Stage, as well as a lunch with President Caprio.

If you have any further questions, please contact the President of the Sophomore Class Kelly Rokosz at 796-4459, or the Sophomore Class Professor John S. Baick advisor at 782-1571.

CD Review: Scout

James Russell
Editor

Some weeks ago the Acoustic Girl Circle performed in the Campus Center to the acclaim of all who attended, and afterwards took the opportunity to promote some of the other groups on their own record label, Modmusic.

One of them was Scout, a new group that had already gained some prominence by having their music played on the TV show 'Felicity'.

I first heard of them while talking with Marilyn D'Amato, the Acoustic Girl's drummer, who said that she produced their debut CD "It seemed like a good idea at the time".

So, while searching for a CD to review for this issue decided to give it a listen, and was very impressed.

Marilyn D'Amato is as good at the mixing board as she is at the drum's - the album's production is as flawless as the music itself.

"It seemed like a good idea" is a strong first showing and is very auspicious for future great music from Scout.

The band is made up of Ashen Keilyn on vocals & guitar, Steve Schlitz on guitar, Rimas Remeza on bass and Lou Rawles on drums, and based out of New York City.

Their music is best described as softish contemplative rock, which keeps ynu listening without bowling you over.

The album's intensity swings, starting with the hard "State of Main" and slowing down toward the middle, then escalating again to finish hard with "Clutch".

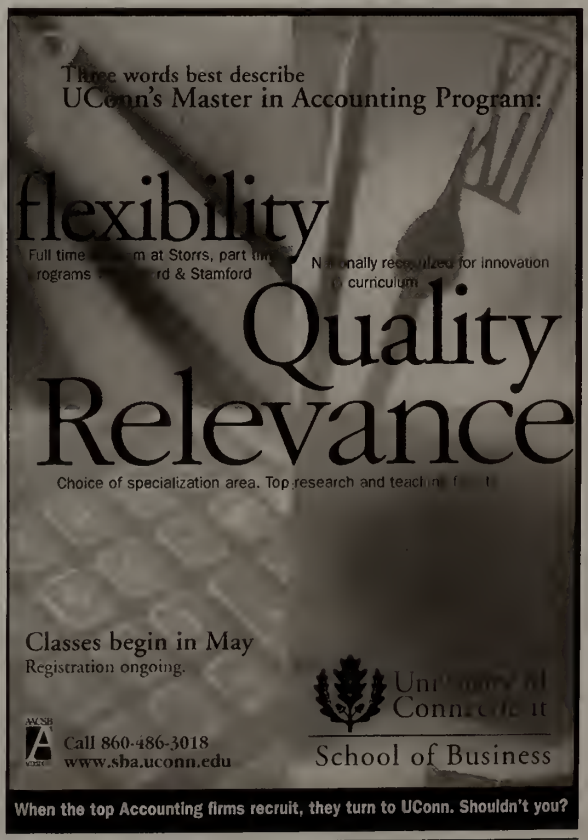
The sound also has a placid, ethereal, sort of dreamlike quality, with slow distorted guitar slides and repetitive lyrics.

It is kind of like the way you feel at 3:00 at an all-day festival concert, when you start to get tired and the music softens in the background, then get energized as the day goes on.

That is what leads me to describe "It seemed like a good idea at the time" as the perfect CD to do homework or write papers to, or in my case, play as the the paper is layed out.

Not overtly distracting or melancholy - just consistent good music. If you want to hear this record, listen to WNEK once the signal returns as it is on the regular playlist.

For moreinformation, on Scout, Marilyn D'Amato, or tourdates,go to their websites at members.xoom.cnm/scoutstuff or www.modmusic.com



WNEC Men Lose GNAC to Amherst

by Ryan O'Connor
Contributing Writer

Who knows, maybe it was a sign that when the lights went out in the second round of the Greater Northeast Athletic Conference tournament held at Johnson & Wales, that the 2000 season would come to an end for the Golden bears. Unfortunately the game was not cancelled, it was postponed to the following day. If it had been cancelled, WNEC would have had an opportunity to host a home playoff game. After defeating Johnson & Wales, Norwich, and Emerson, the men's team would next have to pass through Amherst, Massachusetts in order to advance.

More than 100 parents and faculty made the road trip against Amherst, as well as over 100 students, the majority of them under the influence. The fact that it was a road playoff game didn't effect the basketball team. As Senior Ryan Abraham said, "it was a great feeling hearing the huge support from the WNEC crowd, I haven't seen this much support in the four years I have played."

The game started just the way most people had thought, with a lot of scoring and a lot of trash talk. In the first five minutes Amherst poured in more than twenty points, it seemed every shot attempt went in. For the first ten to fifteen minutes in the first half WNEC was playing a catch up game.

Junior Eric Stewart led the way for the G.Bears in the first half, hitting clutch six footer-jumpers to keep the game close. Senior Tom Keane and other players like Lew Larabee and Abraham, closed the gap to two points going into halftime. Meanwhile the fans from Amherst who had been chanting "Scoreboard" and "It's all over" throughout the first twenty-minutes had slowly diminished in number, and it was WNEC's rowdy fans that were chanting and pointing over in the Amherst direction.

The G.Bears played Amherst in the beginning of the season in Springfield, but lost by double digits. This game was to be a different story, as they would compile an impressive record of 22-5 coming into the post season play against Amherst. As the second half began the hype between the two teams grew even more, every shot and possession was as crucial as the time clock.

With big help underneath the boards by Sophomore Andy Thornton, better known as "BEEF", WNEC had been able to make quick transition points up the floor. The G.Bears had an uphill battle from the start, although they did have the lead by two points at one stage in the game. With less than two minutes left, the game looked like it could possibly go into overtime. However, the Amherst offense was relentless and WNEC couldn't get the breaks that Amherst did in the first half.

Unfortunately, Coach Pearson, who is in his second year as head coach, couldn't survive in this year's tournament. Coach Pearson has done an exceptional job in his first two seasons with Western New England. He has brought with him his winning tradition as coach of Springfield College's mens basketball program. Although WNEC lost, they have nothing to be ashamed of. They have established themselves as a powerhouse team in the GNAC, which will hopefully be a trend in the years to come.

Women's Basketball Sets Records

Alison Morgan
Staff Writer

With the season recently ending for the WNEC Women's Basketball Team there is much to be celebrated, including Junior Guard Erin Marino's feat of reaching 1000 career points.

Erin Marino, who led her team this year in points and steals, averaged 32.5 minutes per game, and became only the eighth women's basketball player in the school's history to score 1000 points. She reached this goal in the second half of the team's 72-29 win over Simmons College, on February 15th, which coincidentally also happened to be the last regular home game of the season.

Marino said hat earlier in the season, she had not realized that she might be in reach of scoring 1000 points this year. Though when the possibility was later pointed out to her, she admits that she was excited and a bit nervous, hoping that it would not affect her playing. "In the last game, I was taking more shots than usual, which made me a bit uncomfortable, but my teammates were especially encouraging. They had a lot of confidence in me and were really excited, which meant a lot".

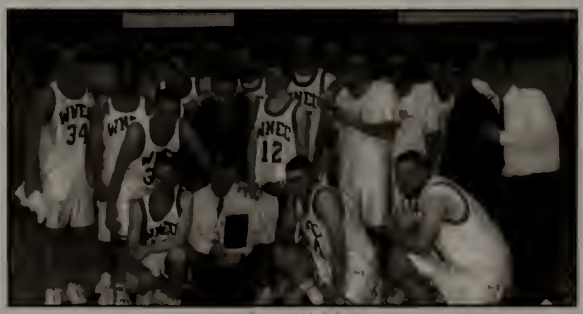
When asked what it meant to her, to know that she was one of only eight women to accomplish this feat, Marino said "I really appreciate the acknowledgement, and am proud to be on the list with many of WNEC's most talented players, such as Kim Coia and others".

Looking back at this season, Marino, who was co-captain, feels that her team played well and had a good inside-outside game. "We were successful in executing the offensive plays, which helped spread the scoring out between a number of players. We're also a relatively quick team, with good scoring off of fast breaks, and we hustle."

Marino said that out of all the games this season, she will most remember the basketball team's win over Emmanuel College at home, at the beginning of February. "We came into the game as underdogs", she explained, "but we played just about the best defense we have all season and shut down their top scorers. Right from the start we built up a good lead, and we ended up playing a great game against them, winning 78-73".

There were many new faces in the locker room compared to last season, including the six new Freshmen on the tea as well as the new Head Coach Wendy Davis and Assistant Coach Steph Sayball. Marino said "Coach Davis has a different coaching style than our previous coach, but her goals for the season were more similar to our own. This, along with the return of Assistant Coach O'Riordan, made it easier for all of us to work effectively as a team".

Considering that this season the Women's Basketball Team did not have any seniors, it can be assumed that all or most of this year's players will be returning next season. With that in mind, Erin Marino predicts that as a more experienced team, they will not only improve from this year's 16-9 record but will also be the Conference Champions.



The WNEC men's basketball team

Tom Kew with Plaque

Current Sports Scores

Kevin Hassett
Staff Writer

Men's Tennis 3-1 (1-0 GNAC)
WNEC 2
Stonehill 7

WNEC 5
Emerson 3

WNEC 6
Gordon 3

WNEC 6
Wentworth 0

Baseball 2-4 (3-1 GNAC)
Albertus Magnus 4
WNEC 1

Albertus Magnus 3
WNEC 4

Daniel Webster 2
WNEC 8

Daniel Webster 0
WNEC 8

Softball 2-3
WNEC 5
Suffolk 4

WNEC 2
Suffolk 8

WNEC 13
Daniel Webster 2

Men's Lax 2-5

WNEC 5
Denison 13

WNEC 17
Vassar 7

WNEC 3
Lynchburg College 13

WNEC 21
MA Maritime Academy 7

Women's Lax 3-0
WNEC 9
AIC 5

WNEC 7
Keene State 6

WNEC 7
Elms 16

Pro Athletes: Role Models or Criminals?

Devid Weinberg
Staff Writer

It is simply astounding to constantly hear about professional athletes who are spending more time trying to prove their innocence rather than proving to their respective teams that they deserve to be called professional athletes.

Now more than ever, it appears that defying the laws of justice is the latest craze, especially in the National Football League. In particular, former Carolina Panthers wide receiver Rae Carruth is facing charges of first degree murder and possibly the death penalty for allegedly shooting and killing his pregnant girlfriend.

It is bewildering to note that if Rae Carruth permanently breaks ties with the NFL he is still entitled to a handsome $30,000 severance pay. Under normal circumstances involving cases of termination, the amount owed to the individual seems legitimate, but not in cases of murder. A person who has committed such a sin should not get indirectly rewarded with money, despite the fact the contract may state otherwise.

Middle linebacker Ray Lewis of the Baltimore Ravens is also involved in the killing craze after he stabbed two people to death. Speaking of murder by use of a knife, who could ever forget about former football star O.J. Simpson? Maybe Carruth and Lewis were attempting to see if they could get away with murder as O.J. Simpson has succeeded at doing, or possibly they like being the punch line of 100 jokes made by Jay Leno during the course of a week on the Tonight Show.

In Major League Baseball, Atlanta Braves relief pitcher John Rocker made highly insensitive remarks in an interview with Sports Illustrated about homosexuals, New Yorkers, AIDS victims, single mothers, and foreigners. Rocker's comments initially earned him a suspension from baseball until May 1, and a $20,000 fine.

After an arbitrator heard the case, Rocker's sentence was reduced to a fourteen-day suspension and a $500 fine. The final decision on the penalty the pitcher will receive seems too lenient for such a bigot. This is not to imply that people do not make mistakes and that they should never get a second chance to improve their behavior. However, Rocker and other professional athletes are supposed to show they are mature adults and even role models, not behave as if they are immature babies.

My question is what ever happened to athletes who simply lead by example and are true role models? One highly respected athlete that comes to mind is former New York Yankees captain Don Mattingly. He showed his greatness by winning nine Gold Glove awards at first base, hitting so well he became known as the Hit Man, played in six All-Star games and was devoted to his teammates and his fans.

While Mattingly was in the spotlight much of his career he continued about his work in an unselfish manner which others around him undoubtedly noted and respected. With the technology that is available today, maybe Don Mattingly should be cloned so he can be a reminder that the term "professional" does not simply apply to how athletes play the game, it is also how they play the game of life!

Reaction:

How do you feel about the John Rocker situation? Was he right or wrong in his comments? Was his punishment fair or unfair? Write your comments to *westernersports@juno.com*

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ACROSS

1. To have and to ___
6. State next to IL
7. Satisfy
10. An intense fear
12. In the direction of
13. What did you say?
15. A quantity to which another quantity is added
16. Ornamental blooming plants
19. Participated in a game
20. Caused blackouts in WWII
21. Without
22. Afar
24. Fish eggs
25. Moons (pl.)
28. Excess
31. Fencing foil
35. ___ to the coral
39. Shades of yellows
38. October birthstone
39. Forms of math
41. Where to meet the Robert E. Lee
43. Mimic
48. Strip down the highway
47. Questions
51. Under twenty
53. A seal on a document
55. State of being a monster
56. Exampl
57. Contraction
58. Only one
60. Before the present
61. A state of alarm
62. ___ what!
63. Talk back

DOWN

1. Indian house
2. Carries out an order
3. Drop me a ___
4. Movie with Astaire and Caron
5. Addams family cousin
6. Not favoring one term or another
7. Gather in sewing
8. A soft breeze
9. A possessive pronoun
10. Soft foods
11. Hawaiian dance
14. Being
17. Places to get the good word out
18. "Much ___ About Nothing"
20. Friend of Siamese King
23. Possessive pronoun
26. For
27. Cut off
28. Abbrev. at airport
29. Abbrev. entire
30. That man again!
31. A kind of tide
32. Each
33. A laundry detergent
34. Phonetic letter of alphabet
39. Enthusiastic
40. Meadow
42. Diseases of water retention
43. Boy cat
44. Place to hang a coat
45. Weird
46. Golds
47. Peaks
48. Avoids
49. Boardwalk game
50. Olio
52. Russian River
54. The God of Egypt said, "I___"
59. Negative

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CP000409 / March 4, 1999

Upcoming Home Matches

Sport's Department
Press Releaase

Men's Tennis
- Wed. April 5 3:30 Nichols
- Sat. April 8 1:00 Johnson & Wales
-Tues. April 11 3:30 Western CT State

Women's Lax
-Tues. April 11 4:00 Nichols

Men's Lax
-Sat. April 1 3:00 Plymouth State
-Thurs. April 6 3:30 Springfield

Baseball
-Sun. April 2 noon Emerson
-Tues. April 4 Worcester State
-Thurs. April 5 Norwich University
-Wed. April 12 3:30 Westfield State

Softball
-Fri March 31 3:30 Framingham State
-Sat. April 1 1:00 Southern Vermont
-Mon. April 3 3:30 Becker
-Wed. April 5 4:00 Smith
-Fir. April 7 4:00 Rivier
-Sat. April 8 1:00 Norwich
-Thurs. April 13 4:00 Emmanuel

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WNEK is looking for an Alternative Director and a Financial Director. Interested parties please stop by the production studio at the station or Student Activities for an application or contact: Mike Cool x-4506, Josh Ackley 736-2226, or Joe Travoglino 782-3866.

Beeome a Mentor with the Girl Scouts of America. Help girls in the Springfield area build self esteem and leadership skills, enhance reading-literary skills and math and science skills. **Get involved . . . Conneet . . . Make an Impact**. For more information, eall Carole Katz 525-4124, or e-mail: ckatz@pvgse.org.

Resume Builder for any Business or Accounting major, your student newspaper is looking for a Business Manager to handle accounting and billing. There is no writing required for this position. Any interested applicants please contact Eric Johnson by stopping by our office in the Campus Center or call us at 782-1580.

Attention Graduating Seniors! Hartford Life's Fund Accounting Training Program is looking for interested graduates with a bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance. Applicants must be self-motivated with strong interpersonal and computer skills, some familiarity with investments preferred, individual and team work skills, and the ability to analyze procedures and processes and develop alternatives. For more information e-mail Bridget Hillier at bridget.hillier@hartfordlife.com, or fax a resume to (860)843-3494.

Looking for Summer Work, look to Six Flags New England. The park plans to hire 3,500 new team members for their 2000 season. Good people skills are a plus as well as the ability to work cooperativly with other team members. For more information on joining the Six Flags team, please contact the Human Resources Department at (413)789-9998.

"Karaoke Unplugged" Contest
WIN CASH PRIZES!
Tryouts: Wednesday, March 29th 9-10pm at Baypath College. See Celia in Student Activities for more details.

Coming soon to The Westerner. Do you have any questions regarding your room mates, loved ones, classes, or just want to ask something, write it down and either drop it by The Westerner office or mail it on the inter campus mail addressed to The Westerner. Our new advice column will be up and running as soon as you have any questions for us.

Copywriter

Part-time, (413) 536-5086 12-7 pm.

Interested in beeomeing a member of *The Westerner* staff? If so stop by our office durring out Tuesday meetings at 12:30, or call x-1580. A variety of positions are availible. If you have any questions please direct them towards James Russell, editor of *The Westerner*.

Looking for something to do this friday night? Join the Freshman Council and CAB as they host an 80's Dance Party with Orange Crush for this weeks Friday's between 8:00 and 11:30 pm.

Blue Moon Coffee Roasters

No need to travel to Northampton, gourmet coffee has come to the area. Blue Moon Coffee Roasters is open at 5 Sumner Ave., near White St. Serving Gourmet and flavored coffees, teas, cappuccinos, and backed goods. Now open 'till pm Mon-Sat.

Come sit and study, or bring your friends and visit over a Latte.

Try a Different Classroom

An introduction to the Mayan World
May 15-26, 2000

Course Description: This course will directly involve the student in experiencing the Yucatec Mayan world of southern Mexico. After preparatory lectures and orientation you will spend 10 days in the Yucatan on a tour of the Mayan world. We will visit archaeological sites, caves and alters, colonial churches, Spanish towns, and cities, native markets, and the Caribbean coast. The student will be encouraged to experiment with local foods and language, and will gain a direct insight into traditional native American ways of life, history, and custom.

Cost of Course:
$2175(for 3 credits)
$1775(for no credit)

Cost includes tuition, airfare, ground transport, food, lodging, and entry fees to sites and museums.

Direct Further questions to: Dr. Richard Luxton tal: (413)525-9102

THE WESTERNER

Western New England College • 1215 Wilbraham Road, Springfield, Massachusetts • Volume 45/Issue 6 • April 28, 2000

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ROVING REPORTER

What do

p. 5

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

Lecture Series Concludes With Advice

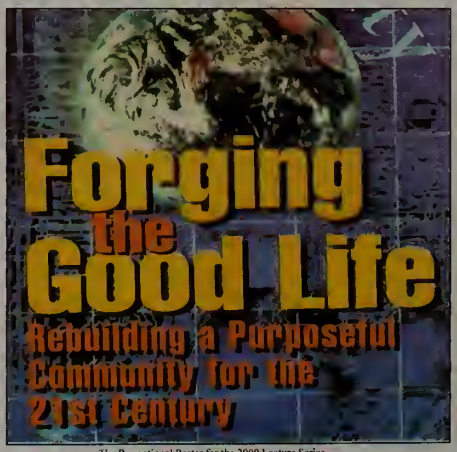
James Russell
Editor

"Being able to handle your work, family, and philanthropic responsiblities is a balancing act" said anchorperson Brenda Garton of WWLP Channel -22 News on Wednesday at the last lecture of the 2000 series, where she was MC and keynote speaker.

In continuing theme of the series, rebuilding community for the twenty-first century, a series of panelists consiting of members of the WNEC community and prominent local citizens, who gave their advice to today's college students as to how they should give back to their community, while not sacrificing their own sanity and personal lives.

This series was established to counteract what appears to be a prevailing trend in our society away from civil involvement.

See LECTURE, page 2



The Promotional Poster for the 2000 Lecture Series

Problems With 'Net Server Overload

Melenie Gure
Staff Writer

As college students, we have all had the unfortunate experience of waiting until the last possible day to write a paper, only to find that the server is down and we cannot research our topic.

Granted, this is our fault since we chose to wait so long in the first place. But what is not our fault is the failure of the server. Now, of course, we all throw a fit and curse the day the WNEC server was ever invented.

But many of the problems with the server can be traced back to us. At this point, I think it is safe to say that everyone has heard of the MP3 format, a compressed file (about three megabytes), of free digitally downloadable music, and Napster, a program for trading MP3's whether legal or pirated from CDs, across the Internet between listeners. and many of us have our own collection.

I am included in that list of Napster users. For that reason, I can only blame my fellow students and myself for the "stupid server", as many people call it.

Here at WNEC, as at many other schools, there are numerous servers. There is an e-mail server, a web server, an administrative server, and so on. But how do we get to the world outside of WNEC?

What if we want to check the weather on CNN.com or send someone a birthday card on Bluemountain.com?

Well then, we have to travel the PSINet to Boston, which is our connection to the outside world and our only link to the web.

The problem with PSINet is that the traffic on the lines can get backed up, causing trouble getting anywhere outside of WNEC.

Within those lines, there are 2 T1 lines which travel at 1.54 megabytes per second. So what does this mean for those of us who are not computer engineers? It is like trying to get from Springfield to Boston on a one-lane highway.

There is heavy traffic going in all directions, which will slow down or stop information from being received.

What does this have to do with Napster you ask? It is the heavy traffic that sites such as Napster.com receive that occupies the lines that we want to use.

Fortunately, something is being done about this problem. Allyn B. Chase, the director of the Office of Information Technology, has recently put in an order for a Data Traffic Manager.

This new server will prioritize our Internet activity. This means that students going to sites such as Yahoo, Excite, and others for research purposes will get priority over those who are trying to download a song.

There are colleges and universities who have made it impossible for students to get access to Napster.com. However, Chase does not want to see this happen. "I feel that there is some educational purpose to them and I don't want to have to get rid of them" he said, regarding MP3s.

As this is a college campus, and education should be our first priority.

This is why the Data Traffic Manager will be helpful. It can monitor student-internet activity so that those who need information will be able to access it without interference.

Being an avid Napster user myself, I am in no position to condemn other students that are as well.

However, we need to keep our priorities in check. We can do this by downloading MP3s only late at night. By that time, most people have already finished their homework. But for students who still download during the day, the Data Traffic Manager will greatly help out those of us who have waited until the last minute to write that paper.

LECTURE from page 1.

These successful citizens came to speak to urge students that civil involvement, through volunteerism, activism, and philanthropic giving, are a moral imperative, in the words of panelists Harvey Clay, "the rent you pay to God for your good life."

Gartons opening remarks, delivered with the skill of an experienced orator, highlighted the seemingly endless pressure of work and deadlines, and how despite that pressure one should always make time to give back to others, because "the feeling is incredible." She related a story of volunteering at the local Special Olympics, and how "seeing the look in those kid's eyes makes it all worth it."

She also spoke of the fringe career benefits of getting involved, while insisting that personal gains are not the reason to begin.

The benefits include networking with other professionals and increased social relations, though the emphasis should always be on the cause.

At the 2 o'clock lecture the four panelists answered Gartons rhetorical questions as to what advice they would give upon looking back.

WNEC Alumnus and investment advisor suggested that student should beware of falling into credit card debt, and remember to save for retirement, even though it may seem a long time in the future. His oft-repeated piece of advice as to "pay for yourself first" to guarantee your future.

, Vice President of Aetna Insurance, spoke of trying to reconcile her busy life with the needs of her family and volunteer work on the behalf of mentally challenged adults, advising that "it is sometimes okay to say 'no' and take some time for yourself."

Standing in at the first lecture for State Representative Benjamin Swan, who was working on legislature, was WNEC's own Prof. Eugene Angus, who spoke of the importance of political activism in building a just world. He recounted his own experiences in fighting nuclear weaopons proliferation.

Concluding the panelists was Harvey Clay, president of Greater Springfield Lincoln-Mercury and a prominent local citizen well-known for his philanthropic giving.

He is a man of religious devotion and a deep thinker, as evidenced by the many philosophical quotes in his advertising. He spoke of his rise from a seemingly aimless life to one of the most successful business leaders in our area, and again reemphasized philanthropy.

The lecture concluded and Mrs. Garton departed to read the five o'clock news. The speakers reconvened tha t night at seven for the evening panel discussion.

For the most part, the speakers reiterated their speeches from the afternoon lecture almost verbatim.

However, Representative Swan had returned for this lecture. He had been busy debating legislation concerning polluting pesticides and the elimination of a tax on children's books, both measures he supports.

Swan counteracted the common stereotype that young people are not interested in politics today, speaking of the enthusiastic response he has recieved from youth in politics, and promoting the internship programs available through his office. His voting choices in response to his constituents show the power citizens can wield when they contact their representatives with their opinion on an issue.

The attendance for this event was sparse, at both sessions, most likely because unlike at previous lectures, attendance at this one was not mandatory.

Those who did "make the time", in the words of one speaker, to attend, came away with advice they will be able to put to good use.

The Sophomore Class does their own community service by donating a check to the United Way from their Charity Auction.

Prof. Meeropol's Response to Racism Editorial

Prof. Michael Meeropol
Contributing Writer

I am pleased that the challenge in my editorial in the Westerner has provoked a response.

I will focus my comments on Mr. Craig Nakashian's effort to demonstrate the falsity of my and Dr. Beverly Tatum's claim that there are systematic advantages existing in American society for people born with a white skin.

I will grant that in the laboratory science sense it is impossible to "prove" the existence of these systematic advantages.

However, I believe it is possible to demonstrate that existence so that people who look carefully at the evidence with an open mind will be persuaded.

Before I do so, I want to note that Mr. Nakashian did not "disprove" my argument. He chose to comment on only one of the examples I used (the disproportionately low percentage of black CEO's) dismissing it with the assertion that "the reasons for the discrepancy are far too complex to be explained by either the white racism or black inferiority theories."

His concept of white racism is limited to individual acts. The reality is more complicated than that.

When I stressed that there was a disproportionately low number of black CEOs I was using that fact as an indicator that potential CEO candidates who are members of minority groups (also candidates from among the ranks of white women) are limited by past historical experiences of discrimination and an on-going culture that in effect suggests that this is not an attainable goal for them.

(When I talk about past history, I'm NOT referring to slavery.)

As recently as 35 years ago, blacks were officially second class citizens in the South. (Southern discrimination at once eliminated a very high percentage of potential black CEOs from today's list of candidates most of whom are now in their 50s, when this group was growing up.)

According to polling data there is still about 20% of the white population who believes black people are inferior.

Thus, probably 20% of the time, blacks attempting to climb the ladder of success will find a roadblock having nothing to do with their capabilities in the person of an actively racist supervisor.

Even in the absence of active racism, the cliche, "It's not what you know, it's who you know" comes into play.

The very absence of blacks from the upper reaches of corporate America means that fewer of those who are climbing will be able to take advantage of "who" they know.

In addition to the CEO example, I presented (albeit very briefly) four others - police activity, disproportionate incarceration, disproportionate use of the death sentence, and differential school funding.

To dismiss these examples with the throwaway line that they are merely "statistical and anecdotal" is unworthy of a serious social scientist.

I hope no one will think that the examples I used as evidence mean that I am advocating a society where, for example, 12% (and no more than 12%!) of the CEOs would be black.

I merely use the over-representation of blacks in sections of society that are the least desirable (prison, death row, the receiving end of the bullet from a police revolver) and the under-representation in the desirable areas (education in well-funded schools, top jobs in corporate America) as evidence for my general proposition - that there are systematic advantages to being born with a white skin in America today.

In all of these examples, structural forces as well as the activities of individual racists are at work. It is the conjunction of all these forces that leads people like myself and Dr. Tatum to talk about societal racism or structural racism.

Of course people engage in specific actions which perpetuate structural racism - but many times, perhaps the majority of times, people do it WITHOUT MEANING TO DO IT.

Mr. Nakashian denies that there is anything structural going on but he makes no arguments to support his contention.

It is just bad racists and we should condemn them. I argue that we must do more than condemn them. We must constrain them so they cannot ACT on their prejudices. Even that is not enough. We must break the cycle that reinforces existing inequality even in the absence of KKK style racism.

One last point. There was significant irony in Mr. Nakashian's use of Booker T. Washington to attack people "who make a business of keeping the troubles, the wrongs, and the hardships of the Negro race before the public."

Mr. Nakashian himself argued that the fight against segregation was an important fight.

Booker T. Washington's entire career was spent arguing that blacks should NOT fight against segregation and NOT fight against second-class citizenship.

The statement Mr. Nakashian quotes was used AGAINST the individuals who insisted that blacks deserved full political and social rights in America.

Then as now, the messengers who argue that the inequalities of society are unjust and must be fought are blamed for its continuation.

Booker T. Washington was part of the problem; he opposed efforts to fight for a solution. I respect Mr. Nakashian's right to disagree with me but I believe that the evidence is very clear that it is not enough to treat everyone as individuals. When slavery existed you could not fight slavery by refusing to own slaves. When segregation existed you could not fight segregation by refusing to personally discriminate against blacks.

Without a concerted effort to break the cycle of structural racism, to reduce and in fact eliminate the advantages based on skin color in America today, the same inequalities we see around us will

All members of the College Community are welcome to respond to articles and editorials in the Westerner. We welcome your opinions and commentary! Either drop your writings off at our office in the Campus Center or call 782-1580 to express your opinion. Responses and criticism are welcome!

Massachusetts Community Water Watch

Water Watch Update

Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

On Friday April 28th and Saturday April 29th, the Western New EnglandWater Watch and the Chemistry Club will be conducting a clean up at Lake Lorraine in Springfield.

The site is incredibly filthy and disgusting, thus promising lots of good finds for volunteers.

The clean up is being held in conjunction with the Springfield Clean Up Day, and consequently will be supported by other local and regional groups.

As far as clean-ups go, this is the bigone. We need everybody who can spare some time to go down and try to reclaim this area from the Mouth of the Abyss into which it had sunk.

We will be meeting Friday at 2:30 in the Campus Center, and Saturday at 11:00 a.m. in the Campus Centerto head to the site.

For more information please contact Chris Sullivan 781-5712.

Pynchon Society Merges With Mortar Board

Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer/
V. P. Pynchon Society

The Pynchon Society, the Senior Honor Society of Western New England College, has been accepted in the membership of the Mortar Board National Senior Honor Society.

The Society is named for the eponymous founder of the city of Springfield.

The Pynchon Society is slated to be installed as the 215th collegiate chapter in the United States on April 30th at 10:30 a.m. in Dining Room B.

This installation represents the culmination of three years of hard work for Professor William Mandel.

Since he came to Western New England in the Fall of 1997, Professor Mandel has been working to bring this highly prestigious group to campus in order to recognize outstanding seniors and to provide an outlet for senior leaders to work together.

The Mortar Board values excellence in academics, extra-curricular activities, and community service.

Each year, rising Juniors that exemplify these criteria are selected by the outgoing class of Pynchon members to carry forth the traditions of the organization.

Thus the values and legacy of each group is carried over into the succeeding membership.

This year represents a different ceremony of sorts, since not only are graduating Seniors being installed as members, but their successors are being installed simultaneously.

In subsequent years, only the rising class of Juniors will be inducted.

"I am really excited about starting a new tradition on campus. I think this group will be something that the entire WNEC can be proud of.

The students in this society have a lot to be proud of".(Sara Johnson- President 1999/2000)

President Johnson and the other officers have worked closely with Professor Mandel to make this organization something to be honored at Western New England.

While the Pynchon Society itself served this purpose, to be tied to a prestigious national organization such as the Mortar Board is something to be truly proud of.

Membership in Mortar Board qualifies a person for grants and scholarships after they leave school, as well as providing them with a national network of fellow Mortar Board members.

The Pynchon Society promises to be an important goal for seniors to attain membership.

As the years go by and the tradition builds, the Society can only continue to grow and become stronger. Western New England owes a debt of gratitude to Professor Mandel and the students with whom he worked closely to form this organization that promises to better not only the College, but also the students.

Alumni Association Welcomes Seniors

Michael Susco
Class of '70

My son's pending graduation this year has rekindled thoughts of my own graduation from Western New England College.

Commencement is a turning point - marking the transformation of your relationship with the College from a period of time defined by semesters to a lifelong connection as a member of the Alumni Association.

The key to both periods before and after graduation lies with the relationships that you develop.

As students, your relationships with fellow students, faculty, and staff, were vital to your success.

As alumni, your continuation of these relationships through the bridge of the Alumni Association can benefit you in new ways. In my own case. I was able to reconnect with a classmate who ultimately became my business partner.

Such relationships are key to a successful business and personal life.

You have heard that a college degree is worth a lot of money. I believe that your degree from Western New England College is priceless.

That piece of parchment paper tells the world not only that you have accomplished a major goal in your life, but also that you are committed to ensuring that your degree remains priceless.

You fulfill that committment whenever you support the work of the institution through participation in Alumni Association activities.

Think about it. Without the alumni who came before you - who attended college fairs, shared career advice, organized Homecomings, and raised money for scholarships and state-of-the-art facilities like the Alumni Healthful Living Center and innovating learning environments like the LaRiviere Center - Western New England College would not enjoy the fine reputation that it has today.

As the first class of the millennium, you become an even more important part of the fabric of the Western New England College community.

Your continued involvement, whether large or small, is necessary for keeping the fabric intact. Consider becoming a volunteer or serving on a committee.

Make a financial contribution. In all of these ways, all alumni help to keep our institution moving forward and our degrees valuable.

As you approach this momentous occasion, I congratulate your hard work, welcome you to the Alumni Association, and encourage your involvement. Call us anytime at (413)-782-1327 or toll free at (800)-962-6592. I look forward to working with you.

CAN YOU TALK THE TECH?

At RCN, we've become a telecommunications powerhouse through the exceptional customer service we provide. And there's no end in sight to our growth. In fact, we are currently seeking additional customer service talent for our state-of-the-art call center in Springfield, MA.

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We offer a competitive salary, benefits, and the opportunity for future career advancement. Please submit your resume indicating source code TSAW4900 via e-mail: jobs-ma@rcn.com, or via fax: (413) 846-6505. Only resumes with source codes will be considered. EOE. M/F/D/V

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The Case for Universal Public Health Care

Jarrod Thompson
Contributing Writer

Every day in our country families endure illness and disease.

Some are not so lucky and fall victim to this nation's lack of health care.

A child may lose hearing because their mother cannot take them to get an ear infection treated, or a hard working father may lose his life from pneumonia because he is unable to pay for proper treatment.

There is no excuse for America's lack of accessible health resources.

The United States is the wealthiest country in the world and yet "infant mortality rates are lower in 21 other countries, including Canada, Germany, and Japan"(Albeda, p.37). It is a shame for children, this nation's future, to be so susceptible to the greed of private corporations and capitalism.

The number of Americans who lack health insurance is growing. "In 1993, 17% of the population under age 65 lacked health insurance, up from 13% in 1980"(Albeda, p.37).

In Massachusetts alone there are over 625,000 people uninsured. Most of these people are employed, they are the wait staff at restaurants we attend, they are the gas station attendants where we fill our cars up, and they are the ones who work the jobs no one else will work.

These people are some of America's hardest workers, however, they do not even have access to something so simple as health care.

Today's statistics show that Americans desire a fair system of health care that will cover the entire populous.

A single-payer universal health care system will cut out insurance companies and put the financial responsibility into the hands of government.

Thus granting equivalence in care to all humans, we are all equal therefore society deserves balanced health care!

"As a result of both underreporting and misinformation on the part of the media, there is confusion and ignorance about what exactly the single-payer plan is and how well it works.

The single-payer system streamlines health care by eliminating insurance companies from the health care delivery system.

The government acts as the sole insurer by financing health care through progressive income and payroll taxes. This has been shown to spread the cost of health care evenly over the entire population as well as to reduce waste that results from insurance administration.

Single-payer is not, however, a government-run health care system"(Chamberlain, p. 1)."

A single-payer plan is not meant to socialize the health care system.

Like Canada most health resources would remain in the private sector. Since insurance companies would be eliminated. What would change in America's health care system is private for-profit agencies would become private not-for-profit agencies.

Because spending will be taken out of the greedy hands of insurance companies, the goal for profit will be removed from a hospital's mission statement, and a single means of funding will exist the health care system will be much more efficient.

In 1991 Canada's total health care expenditure was only 10% of the gross national product; in the same year the United States expenditure on health care was 13.4% of the gross national product. (Stoez, p.47)

It is estimated that government would save somewhere around 60% of current administrative costs.

These savings stem from hundreds of thousands of dollars private insurance companies spend on advertising, unnecessary costs, and lobbying legislators.

Savings in Massachusetts alone would be enough to finance health care for all of its' constituents without care.

There are arguments against a universal health care system for the United States, the arguments stem from the shortcomings of Canada's system.

Recently I saw an advertisement on television directed toward senior citizens. This ad was attempting to explain to them that universal health care would ruin Medicare and that Canadian's actually take buses to the United States to receive health care.

This advertisement was also accompanied by a website, www.busfromcanada.com.

I decided to go to their website and take a look at some of their points to see if any of them were valid. Here are the two points I found most reasonable.

"Canadian "universal" health care isn't always universal: Studies show that in 1997-1998 about 170,000 people in British Columbia - 4.2 percent of the population were not covered.

The British Columbia Medical Association expects that as many as 4,000 patients every day will be refused funding for legitimate medical care.

At a large teaching hospital in Vancouver, 10 percent of emergency room patients have no coverage.

A study in the Canadian Medical Association journal shows that between 1996-98, the median time to review and approve new drugs in Canada was 518 days.

For the same time period, the U.S. Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) approved new drugs in a median time of 369 days."

As I said before Canada's system does have some shortcomings but their problems are still far better off than the inequalities of America's system.

Four percent of Canada's population is not covered by health insurance, as opposed to United States "17%"(Albeda, p. 37).

Ten percent of emergency room patients have no health coverage in Vancouver; in the U.S. the entire fifteen percent of the population that does not have health insurance goes to emergency rooms.

The U.S. taxpayer is ultimately the one who ends up paying for their visit. The other argument that, Citizens For Better Medicare stated was that it takes longer for new drugs to be approved in Canada.

This is true, however, they leave out a major factor. In the U.S. the rate of which new drugs is approved is usually controlled by pharmaceutical companies.

These companies control the amount of time that drugs are approved and whether or not they are approved for over the counter consumption. Some drugs such as allergy drugs are kept behind the counter so costs are much higher.

Consumers have two options in this, case to buy the expensive prescription drugs that are more effective or buy the over the counter medications which, are more harmful to the consumer.

In Canada it may take longer to approve drugs but in the end it is the consumer who benefits and is allowed in this case to buy effective over the counter allergy medications.

It is up to the every day citizen

Golden Bear Pep Band Leaves Its Mark On Season

Walking into a basketball game at the HLC is an exciting experience.

The squeaking of sneakers on the floor, the enthusiastic cheers of the crowd, and the spirited music of the Golden Bear Pep Band!

The Pep Band has grown in leaps and bounds these past two years and there is no end in sight. Making its debut performance at Midnight Madness and pushing onward through 28 home basketball games, men's and women's, has been an exhilarating and wonderful accomplishment for all of us musicians.

We even supported the Men's basketball team in the GNAC tournament at Johnson and Wales University in Providence, Rhode Island and once more at Amherst College for the NCAA Division III first round. This has certainly been a memorable season for everyone!

The Pep Band has been very active this year. In addition to performing at the basketball games, we have been busy purchasing and learning new music.

Should the occasion arise where "Get Ready for This" may not be appropriate, we will be ready.

We are especially excited that we were able to buy new instruments like a xylophone, tuba, and mellophone this past semester!

This equipment, along with a drum set that we would like to purchase for next year, will help to lay the foundation for the band grow on for many years to come.

Unfortunately, all these wonderful things do not come without a price.

In order to defray the costs the Pep Band has been fundraising. We sponsored the groove band "Traveling Matt" to perform at Friday's, organized a very successful car wash, and are planning on selling Final Exam Survival Kits in May.

The kits will have a little explanation of what is inside, like paper clips and bubble gum, and will be really nice during that stressful exam week.

We are very proud of how far the band has come in just one short year and hopefully our enthusiasm for next year will spread as well. In order to prepare for football season the Pep Band is planning to do our own band camp right before First Week.

We are hoping to play at many of the home football games and band camp will give us the boost we need to start the season off right.

The Band is enthusiastic about branching out and trying some new types of music, but we will continue the tradition of supporting both basketball teams next winter.

It promises to be another exciting year and if any musicians out there would like to join us please feel free!

You can get in touch with the band through Student Activities or just e-mail me directly at srose@wnec.edu.

In closing, the Pep Band would like to say a big thank you to the campus community for your outstanding support and we will see you all next year at the football games!

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Congratulations to Delta Mu Delta Inductees

Juniors

Mandy Allen
Randy A. Anderson
Jessica Baker-Fitzgerald
William R. Butman, Jr.
Benjamin J. Brunese
Camilo J. Catarino
Dawn M. Chessey
Lisa D'Addona
Robyn Henson
Kyle F. Jurczyk
Tara J. Marinone
Amy Marie McKinney
Rachel C. Mikolaycik
Michael T. Moore
Jeremy John Murphy
John L. Pantera
Dana A. Parker
Stefanie E. Robbins
Adam Roy
Kelly R. Saltis
Joseph M. Soper
Michael Smith
Laura E. Sturgis
Daryl J. White
Kimberly A. Windish

Seniors

Jessica E. Alston
Diane Appleman
Cheryl H. Barry
Jennifer A. Bonie
Sharon J. Churchill
Elizabeth L. Clark
Cory Richard Conway
Karen Cote
Mark H. Deyo
Donna M. Decoteau
Pauline A. Dodge
Jessica M. Fleming
Jessica L. Fournier
Justin P. Godfrey
Mark. J. Hebert
Melanie J. Hermenet
Clark W. Hayward III
Florence Jean Kellam
Joel D. Keller
Lisa J. LaBonte
Darryle J. Lindgens
Thomas Lombard
Ryan W. Manewich
Daniel E. Mazzuca
Christopher A. Miller
Maureen Muller
Danielle L. Roy
Daniel J. Ryan IV
William J. Santini
Ana P. Santos
Carolyn N. Therrien
Andrew S. Thurston
Leo T. Toupin
Lisa Joanne Zacharie
Todd R. Zern

HEALTHCARE
from page 3

to seek out discrepancies such as the ones I found on the Citizens for Better Medicare website.

A single-payer universal health care system will cut out insurance companies and put the financial responsibility into the hands of government.

Wealthy insurance companies do not want this to happen. They are using their profits to fund an expensive campaign to eliminate the threat of universal care.

As human beings it is our obligation to defend ourselves against expensive advertisements.

We must seek the truth and educate others to break free from the grasp of insurance companies.

The United States health care system is full of inequalities and does not benefit the entire population in its current state.

Society must work together in advocating for change and a universal system of health.

We are all human, we are equal, and therefore society deserves balanced health care!

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The Westerner's Roving Reporters Ask ...

Very soon hundreds of Seniors will be leaving our fine educational institution for that mysterious place called "The Real World." So to find out what students plan on doing after they leave WNEC,

...What Are You Doing After You Graduate?

"Going to Orlando for a week end then moving to Jersey."

- Jen O'Brien

"Trying to detoxify our selves from some of the stupidity with which we have been surrounded."

- "Sarah Johnson and Craig Nakeahian

"Enjoying one last week of freedom and then starting work for the rest of my life to pay off WNEC."

- Becky Senecal

"Working, playing a lot of tennis, and keeping it real"

- Kevin Hassett

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor,

I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the lead article from the March 31st edition of The Westerner.

First of all, I would point out that the article quotes a "survey" that was done with very few students. I believe I can point out some other survey data that have been done with many more students.

From a survey completed this year with 574 first and second year students, over 88% agreed that they enjoy living in their hall area.

Over 90% believe that their "Resident Advisor treats residents consistently and fairly."

As for damage billing, since the '95-'96 year, year-end damage assessment billing has decreased by 51%. Congratulations to all of you residents!

Now let's look at discipline Despite the student-generated survey's conclusion that "a lot of students get in trouble and find the rules too strict;" I found that this past fall semester, formal misconduct involved only 186 students!

With almost 1400 students living on campus, I believe you will agree that this is quite a small number.

What about the student response from Gateway? Last year surveys were done and we found that 93% said that they "enjoy living in Gateway Village;" 63% felt that their "Resident Advisor was a good source of information;" 75% believe their Resident Advisor "treats residents consistently and fairly;" and 90% said that they "respect the Gateway Resident Advisors."

I would hope that this "sets the record straight." Our Resident Advisor staff is not only well liked by most of their fellow students, but more importantly, well respected.

Western New England College is growing in popularity and our Resident Halls are also. As you all are aware, we have just completed our first year with the LaRiviere Center and, in the near future, may be building another hall!

Sincerely,

Richard M. DiRuzza
Dean of Students

Dear Dean Diruzza,

Thank you for responding to our survey concerning Residence Life in the March 31st issue. That has certainly been one of The Westerner's most controversial articles in recent times. Due two the two letters of reader response, the Westerner will be much more careful about verifying the accuracy and neutrality of our survey techniques before we run them. However, upon consulting with Prof. Russell of the Quantitative Methods Department (my father), he said that even with our small survey demographic, the results are accurate if that body were representative of the students as a whole. As the authors are at this time unavailable for comment, I can only defend their article based on how their results corroborate my own personal observations.

As I wrote previously to Mr Dusoe the Residence representative, the survey has validity regardless of the actual numbers generated. Even if the amount of disgruntled students are not as large as estimated those results did not just appear - they show that there are a sizable number of students who are not having their concerns addressed, whether they are in the majority or not. One also must consider that students are more likely to express negative opinions in a survey given by their peers than one given by the administration. Perhaps by averaging the two a statistician could get the most accurate results possible. Likewise, there are elements of Real Life policy raised by this article that I do believe deserve review. One example is the practice of fining everyone for the mistakes of one person. An example is how in Franklin Hall recently, one guest spilled paint all over the pool table, but all residents have to pay for its repair, even if they were not in the dorm at the time and had no way of preventing the incident. This strikes me as unfair. However, though opinion is intangible and therefore unquantifiable, I believe you are correct in your criticisms, and our publication in the future will strive for greater accuracy.

James Russell, Editor

Why I Went to D.C.

James Ruesell
Editor

"There is a time when the operation of the machine becomes so odious, makes you so sick at heart, that you can't take part: you can't even passively take part, and you've got to put your bodies upon the gears and upon the wheels, upon the levers, upon all the apparatus, and you've got to make it stop. And you've got to indicate to the people who run it, to the people who own it, that unless you're free, the machine will be prevented from working at all!" - Mario Savio

These were the words on my mind on Monday the 17th as I stood up from the wet ground where my fellow protesters and I were singing "We Shall Overcome", and walked to climb over a Riot Police barricade to ensure my own arrest.

The array of television cameras that were trained on we thirteen young protesters were emblematic of the circus of media that had covered the mass public uprising that had engulfed the downtown capital and, in the words of one song, "flooded the streets with Justice".

As those cameras disappeared in the distance as I was dragged back to my arrest by the police officers, I wondered how this would all come out on the other end.

Would the meaning of our message translate itself from these soaking streets with the whiff of teargas in the air, when rebroadcast in the living rooms of the country?

Would they just see yet another delinquent being arrested, or the greater purpose for why I needed to violate one law in the name of the Higher Law, what was right?

I contemplated these questions as I sat in three separate jails that night, as I do now, sitting here in a swirl of emotions trying to recollect a weekend that will go down as a turning point in history.

Upon returning home I reviewed the mainstream media, and saw their bias that has left distrust and a lack of credibility that will be hard for them to regain.

So for those who saw the protests against the IMF and the World Bank on television and were only shown violence and vandalism, and for those who have never heard of these two institutions before, I am writing this editorial to show why thousands of people were willing to risk their freedom to fight some of the worlds most powerful figures during what some call "the best economic time in history".

The International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization are a triumvirate of independent yet cooperating economic agencies that work to perpetuate the control of wealthy men and their rich corporations over the economies of the world.

Worse, they do such deeds under the guise of trying to eliminate poverty.

For the past fifty years they have reigned unchecked, mostly because they have been out of the public eye, save for the scrutiny of a few progressive economists.

However, the protests last November in Seattle put the names of these institutions on the lips of public discourse. When newly informed observers have begun to look at them, it is not long before they are appalled.

Even a cursory glance shows that these three bodies have no regard for anyone but their corporate clients. The World Trade Organization (WTO), whose meetings were shut down by protesters in Seattle, is an undemocratic body that makes decisions about trade that supersede even our own national laws.

Three WTO officials, meeting behind closed doors and with no conflict-of-interest regulations, work constantly to destroy environmental and labor laws, anything that gets in the way of multinational corporations' rapacious search for profit.

If a member country of the WTO dares, for example, to enact a law forbidding child labor, the WTO will strike it down, as they have in the past.

Banning Child Labor restricts the profit of corporations such as Nike that use it, and the WTO cares only for profits instead of people.

If the WTO is the judiciary body for the oligarchy of international trade, the IMF/World Bank are the direct enforcers of this destructive pattern. These two cooperating bodies make loans to poor countries to bail them out of poverty.

At first glance, this seems like a generous gesture. But instead of being benevolent aides, the IMF and the World Bank are Loan Sharks.

They give money to starving countries that have no choice but to take that loan - their citizens will starve otherwise. But to take receive that money, the countries have to get rid of any of their laws that get in the way of the IMF's "structural adjustment programs". Laws defending the rights of workers and the environment must be scrapped.

One they have taken that loan, they are then in a debt that will be impossible for them to repay, and First World countries use that debt to keep poorer nations in their thrall.

Once under that control, corporations from the Group of Eight Richest Nations compete against each other in a "Race to the Bottom", shipping all their dirty work, such as sweatshops and polluting industries to third world countries who, because they are so in debt to the IMF and the World Bank, cannot refuse.

In this Dickensian debtor's prison, a new slavery has emerged - poorer nations kept in miserable servitude to richer ones, all because of the policies of the IMF and the World Bank, with the aid of the WTO.

That is why I traveled down to D.C., to confront the annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank in the "Spirit of Seattle". Once there, I saw that the power structure of our nation will do anything to defend those with wealth and privilege, even superseding our own First Amendment rights to make the IMF's meetings run smoothly.

Peaceful protesters were beaten, tear gassed, pepper sprayed, arrested at random, subjected to police dogs and horses, just for rallying in a legal protest.

Our convergence center was shut down under a "fire code" violation, because that was the nerve center of the whole operation.

The police pulled no stops in stifling any criticism and violated human rights willfully and maliciously, while the IMF/World Bank delegates wined and dined themselves in luxury hotels.

This was an eye-opener to me. I had always associated police repression of political dissent with dictatorships such as the USSR - not with the United States of America, but it happened before my eyes.

That is when I realized that the IMF and their minions had to be

confronted - but not with violence, because that was their tactic and we would not sink to their level.

Instead, we wanted to confront them with the power of peace - what Gandhi called "satyagrahi", or passive resistance.

We would put our bodies upon the "gears of the machine" and not resist whatever came at us, to show that our resolve was stronger than the IMFis oppression.

We realized that we were all young people, many juveniles, like myself, and that this was an act of self-defense : we wanted to grow up in a word ruled by justice, not greed.

Finally, we knew that we were following in the footsteps of Thoreau, Gandhi, and Martin Luther King, who had been through the same risks in their campaigns for equality.

We agreed that we were going to climb over the police barricade as a symbolic gesture of reaching toward the IMF building and demanding a voice. One by one we got up, sang songs, and went calmly and deliberately over the wall, to be arrested and handcuffed on the other side.

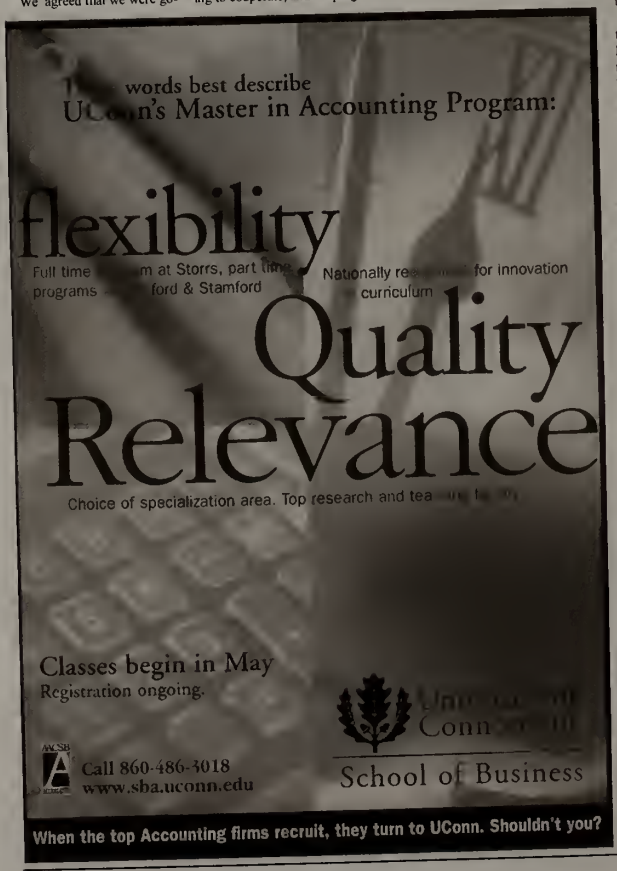
We sang Freedom Songs on the bus ride all the way to jail. That night I was sent from facility to facility, verbally harassed, denied food, and the phone call to a lawyer required by law. I had my legal rights trampled and disgregarded without explanation. "I'd like to speak to my lawyer". "You can't". "Why?" "You can't now shut up!"

It was a long night, but once I was in any apprehension left - other activists had walked this path before and we were just another group in a long line of practitioners of civil disobedience.

Because of the overload on the court system, I was let out of jail the next day without any charges, but others remained, courageously refusing to cooperate, and keeping solidarity with each other.

Our actions may seem like a drop in the bucket, like parrying the sword of the IMF with a pin. But I know that as we were being arrested the IMF delegates were looking down at us from their meeting hall, and we showed them that we will not rest until we have a world of economic justice for all.

All their sweatshops, union-busting, pollution, and enslavement were for one day shut down by the passion of youth, because the people, united, will never be defeated!



Craig's Last Farewell to WNEC

Craig Nakashian
Staff Writer

This is my final editorial as a WNEC undergraduate, I think. As such, I feel that this editorial should wrap up my time here while also looking to the future in the manner that my readers have come to expect. So, in the interest of posterity, I would like to submit this editorial as my speech to the student body at Commencement.

I wanted to ensure that these words were spoken, since my selection as speaker is far from assured, and I must thank my friend Jennifer Gray for providing me with the inspiration to write this piece.

Below is essentially what the text of my speech would be:

I would like to begin with a sentiment expressed by the poet T.S. Eliot. He said, "Culture is something that must grow. You cannot build a tree; you can only plant it, and care for it, and wait for it to mature."

I believe that this quotation is of singular importance to us, the class of 2000, on the eve of our departure from Western New England College. The culture of Western New England has been indelibly marked by us, probably more so than our predecessors, and will forever be different because of us.

A great journey began when our class came into this institution, a journey which we ourselves helped to create.

The year of our matriculation, 1996, served also as the first year of President Anthony Caprio's term at this school. Like him, we came into this college with many expectations and few preconceived notions.

To each of us, Western New England appeared as a blank slate, ever-ready to receive our individual brushstrokes and combine them into a mosaic masterpiece.

We found an institution in which each of us could forge an individual path, and yet remain connected to the whole.

While this dualistic relationship was often strained, it was never broken. We pushed the boundaries of this school, and instead of pushing back, the school expanded to encompass them.

This is a uniquely praiseworthy reaction. For while many schools would have sought to stifle voices that called for change or promoted different opinions, Western New England instead tried to accommodate them.

While the school did not always agree with what these voices had to say, it defended their right to he heard.

Whatever your academic designation, you must recognize that this notion of being able to shape our environment has been a valuable experience. So often people complain about not being heard, or feeling as though they do not matter, well, if one thing can be said for this institution, it would be that we were always heard, and that we always mattered.

The ability to develop a strong sense of self, and to be confident enough to control your surroundings, these are the most important lessons that Western New England College has given us.

Without a strong vein of individuality, a person is little more than a reflection of those around him or her. That person's life will be lived by others.

Without the confidence to take an active part in oneis surroundings, a person will languish in the background, forever bound in the chains of insecurity or cast into the shadows of obscurity.

We must, therefore, thank Western New England for enabling us to make the most of our lives and our times here.

Conversely, the school must thank us for enabling it to make the most of its purpose. For, while it shaped us, we also shaped it.

Like Eliot said, culture grows like a tree, or essentially, like a person. Neither is created overnight, but both grow and mature through diligence and care.

We ourselves will continue to grow and mature, and so will Western New England College.

Our effect on this college has made it so very different now than was just four short years ago.

In the last four years the number of student organizations has grown immeasurably. The college has instituted an honors program with a very large proportion of student governance and representation.

The college has fundamentally redefined its mission statement, its general purpose and its goals. The list of changes could continue nearly ad infinitum.

We ourselves must take ample credit for many of these changes. While we are obviously not alone responsible, we were an instrumental part of them.

Moxy Fruvous Rocks Pearl Street

James Russell
Editor

Moxy Fruvous commanded the stage of Pearl Street in Northampton with all the authority of the King of Spain serving Green Eggs and Ham to Sam I Am.

If you can even picture the weird situations that would motivate this reviewer to write a sentence like that, then you are the perfect candidate for a Fruhead, one of the loyal fans who follow this Canadian quartet around with a loyalty to the literary silliness they put up on stage.

Moxy Fruvous is as much of an original creation as their name, which means absolutely nothing, possessing a style all their own. One could only describe them as a hybridization of The Barenaked Ladies, They Might Be Giants, and numerous a capella groups, stirred together with improvisational comedic theater and baked well in the ludicrousness that can only come from the really intellectual.

Beginning as street performers in Toronto, their blend of infectious pop beats, rap-recitation of children's books, and subtle yet biting political commentary has developed a loyal following on both sides of our northern border.

Normally the purpose of reading a concert review is to see if the band's performance is the style you like, so that you decide whether to attend one of their concerts in the future.

However, each Moxy Fruvous show is completely different and you never know what you are going to expect.

After I walked into Pearl Street, I saw many Fruheads walking about, wondering why the band was so late. After quite a while they burst onto the stage, apologizing for having to watch the last few minutes of hockey game.

It was understandable - they are Canadian - and Moxy Fruvous enthusiastically launched into action.

They began with a completely improvised song about what happens when a girl from Kentucky meets a boy from Massachusetts, and debating whether Kentuckians or Massachusettsians were more intelligent, and trying to find words that rhyme with Kentucky and Massachusetts!

That they pulled it off and kept the audience laughing is proof of the amazing rapport that the band members had with each other and with their audience.

Band members switched instruments between themselves andwenta cappella interchangably and all with equal ability.

Further dialogues concerned the romantic possibilities of a vat of green Jell-O, how awesome the local band The Nields are, and why the Almighty Toronto Maple Leafs will always triumph over the Infidel Ottowa Senators!

A superficial listening to Moxy Fruvous makes it appear that they are just a humorous band, but there is incredible satire going on beneath the words of their lyrics, as they lament pollution and "The River Valley" and merrily refer to an Ex's new boyfriend as "a Right Wing S%&!" and sing an ode the the recliner in "La-Z-Boy".

Their politics can be summed up in one line from "The Gulf War Song" -"daydream from heaven
Picked up the headline, his country was made up of singers
And no more right-wingers".

You can never quite tell when Moxy is being sarcastic, when they are being serious, or just plain funny!

Throughout the concert they played many selections from their new, more serious album "Thornhill" to promote it, interspersed with selections from their earlier Bargainville and You Will Go to the Moon albums.

The time flew by, with the highest point of the night being their greatest hit, "The King of Spain", a retelling of the Prince and the Pauper, but this time the prince ends up in Toronto working for Little Caesars.

They returned for two amazing encores, covering Cher's "Believe"with a banjo, and playing the King of Spain again, but this time as a mid-80's hair metal song!

The audience just could not get enough of Moxy Fruvous, and everyone left eagerly awaiting their next hilarious and incredible performance.

"Falling Up" Is Comic Relief

Andre White
Staff Writer

If you are like me, and most other students here on campus and across the country, then the end of the year jitters are hitting you.

With the loads and loads of tests, papers, and end of the year presentations, its a veritable waterfall of work, and of course, all at once.

Well I have found a way to help alleviate some of the anxiety. I call this little trick: Humor!

I mean, what better way to help with the problems then to laugh at them? I would like to tell you a little story of these jitters.

My sister called me one day to tell me she had finally hought a birthday present and said I would like it.

She told me it was cute and it would make me smile. So a month after my birthday I got the faithful little blue slip of paper in my mailbox, and trudged up to the post office to see what kind of odd present my sister had sent me.

I handed over my package slip and was handed an envelope. I quickly ripped open the little tab and on the package and to my surprise it was a book entitled "Falling Up."

I was a bit taken back to childhood years when I read books by the same author, Shel Silverstein, entitled "A Light in the Attic," and "Where the Sidewalk Ends."
These books are quirky, humorous, and some are actually sick and twisted.

Another book a little on the more serious side is called "The Giving Tree", which was read to me at camp as a little boy, and made me cry.

About the new book though, it contains some of the wildest and wackiest characters who would remind you of those from the books by Roald Dahl.

I find the poems to be wacky, and actually the pictures that accompany the poems even more wacky.

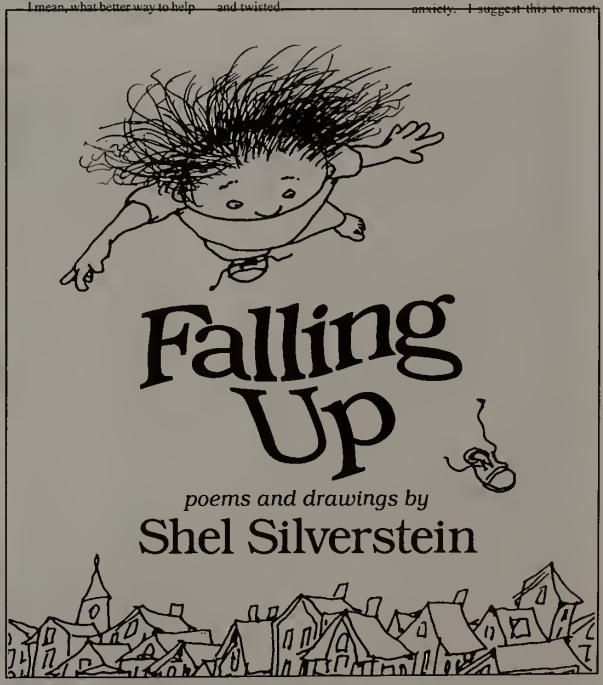
They say "a picture is worth a thousand words," but when you see these pictures it will bring new meaning to that saying.

What I found great about reading this collection of short poems was the humor allowed me to laugh at other people's faults, knowing quite well that the characters I was laughing at were fake.

That way, there was no guilt on my shoulders knowing I was laughing at a real person's fault.

It has also relieved a little of my anxiety. I suggest this to most people, maybe not this particular book, but a children's book. Grab an old favorite from the past, go back to when you were six, and remember when you didn't have to worry about anything except how to tie your shoes, or which mud was the best to play in.

I suggest this for those end-of-the-semester blues.



Underwear, Papers, and Neighbors: Remembering What's Important

Jocelyn Jacques
Staff Writer

The end is near, my fellow students. The light at the end of the tunnel can be seen.

The car ride has stopped. Yes, as I'm sure you're all well aware, it's the conclusion of the Spring Semester. I know that for some, this brings great joy and lots of hoopla.

Finally, no more papers at four in the morning, no more alarms going off in your ear, no more cramming. But what, pray tell, is there to do once the year is finished?

That's easy, sit with your friends and do a little "what will you miss." It's a little ritual my friends and I have begun. So, without further adieu, I give to you, my 2000 List of Things I Will Miss Over the Summer.

To begin, the thing I think most people will miss (including myself) would be doing laundry. How many of you out there have to walk up and down the hallway, or go knocking on a neighbor's door asking if they could exchange your handful of dimes and nickels for some quarters?

Come on... who's guilty? I think it's really fun when you wake up, take a shower, and realize, "Hey this is my last pair of underwear... maybe I should do some laundry."

Of course this last pair is sacred. A HUGE sigh of relief for many is finding the "last pair." It's kinda like Indiana Jones looking for the Lost Ark.

Once you find them, you're as good as gold, and you're happy because now you can put laundry off just one more day.

A second thing that I think most people will miss would be writing papers until the wee hours of the morning.

Unlike the engineers, most of us go to bed before it's AM. I for one am not a procrastinator.

The minute an assignment is assigned, I'm on it, and ready to complete it. However, for many of you, that's not the case. I know.

They spend hours and hours in front of their computers just typing and typing until they have red eyes, and they're really cranky. A word of advice for the friends of these people, whatever you do, NEVER be happy around them.

I'm not saying you have to be in a bad mood all day, but just when they are working on a paper, pretend to be really mad and aggravated too. Safety in numbers. If you're happy, then you get the Look of Death. You don't want that, so pretend for your own protection.

Anyone going to miss getting up before the sun? Didn't think so!! Having 8:00 classes is certainly a valid excuse for being excited for summer.

When that alarm goes off and you realize that most stores aren't even open yet, it's scary. That trip to the shower is often the longest jaunt anyone can imagine.

When I lived in Franklin, I hated going to take a shower. I had to pack up my shampoo, soap, sponge, towel, and face cloth. Then I had to put on my flip-flops and proceed down the hall.

I hated the VERY bright hall light that blinded me every morning. Of course now, my bathroom is practically next to my bedroom.

It's not far at all, but I sleep on the top bunk so when I get up I have to be very careful not to plunge to my death.

Once I survive that, I'm usually okay, but my roommate and I have still have another obstacle to conquer, the bath mat slip guard.

That's the thing you put in the bottom of your shower so you don't slip.

Well, because I'm a thrifty college student (I use the term thrifty instead of poor), I decided to purchase the cheaper of the two bath mats. "What's the difference?" I thought, "They both do the same thing!"

Okay, for future reference, splurge and buy the more expensive one! You see, my roommate and I slip on the one thing that is supposed to save you from slipping.

She falls getting into the shower and I fall getting out of the shower. Every morning I risk life and limb trying to simply take a shower. Sheesh! Anyway, I will most certainly miss the daring attempts to shower safely.

A final and most common aspect of college that I know many of you will miss, are your neighbors.

Whether they are down the hall, next door, or across your Gateway U, many of us have neighbors whom we are deeply fond of.

Of course, these neighbors may be your best friends, or your enemies, but either way, they shall be missed. Who else would bang on your door when you're trying tostudy for that test? Or keep you up with the incessant "BOOM...BOOM BOOM.... BOOM...BOOM BOOM" of their bass?

Ahhhhh yes, who wouldn't love these people? You've lived near them for nearly nine months and it's hard to see them go.

As for those annoying neighbors (and we all have them) you'll look back on your college days and say "I remember living next to this one guy who..." and, you'll see, you'll chuckle at their antics.

Of course you could go the other way and upon remembering them, go into shock and start twitching. In this case, you will not chuckle.

The late night talks, the slamming of doors, the loud cries of far off drunkards coming in for the night, the fire-drills, the mystery meat on your plate, the lack of cash, and the studying, who can forget the studying, are all things that you'll miss this summer when you're away from the campus.

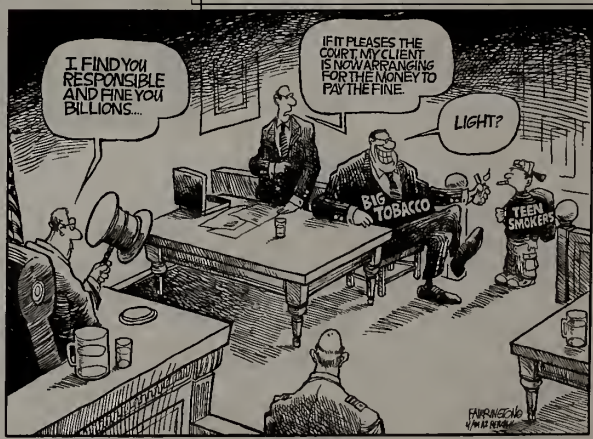
What else will you miss? How about the sound of the snow plow speeding past your window?

The sound of an alarm going off down the hallway that's enough to wake you up, but for some strange reason the owner is still sound asleep.

You'll miss the homework parties, the excitement when your mom sends you a package, the feeling you get when the cafeteria has a Festive Meal, and the crazy people you spend every waking moment with everyday.

I could continue further, but you get the gist of where I was going.

So, remember, you can pick your friends, you can pick your nose, but you can't pick you're friend's nose. Enjoy your summer!!



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Basket	Foot	Racquet
Beer	Golf	Soccer
Bowling	Jai Alai	Tennis
Dodge	Lacrosse	Volley

Men's Tennis Looks Toward GNAC's With High Hopes

Kevin Hassatt
Sports Editor

The Golden Bears come into this Saturday's Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) Men's Tennis Championships at Norwich University (Northfield, VT) as the number two seed following a superb 4-1 conference record.

The lone conference loss came at the hands of Johnson & Wales University in a heartbreaking 5-4 defeat, with both teams battling hurricane-like winds.

Johnson & Wales received the number one seed and will take on hosts Norwich in the first round while the Golden Bears will take on Suffolk University, whom they beat 6-3 during the regular season. The winner from both matches will meet later on to determine the GNAC Champion.

Both Johnson & Wales and WNEC are heavily favored make it to the final. Should this happen, the Golden Bears feel as though they have a slight advantage, despite losing to them during the regular season.

Freshman Tom Michaud (Manchester, CT) has recovered from an ankle injury suffered in the beginning of the season and did not play in the first meeting. Playing at fourth singles, he might just give WNEC the boost they need to bring home the championship.

Much of the season has been up and down for the team. Overall, the team's record is 7-5 as they had a tough non-conference schedule that included division II Stonehill College and other strong schools such as Springfield College, W.P.I., and Nichols College.

Individually, several players have had some great matches to contribute to the team's success. Captain Bryan Hanson (Wantagh, NY) picked up impressive straight sets wins at first singles against Stonehill, Springfield, and Johnson & Wales.

Sophomore Mike Raymond (Vernon, CT) played solidly all season long at second singles. Hanson and Raymond also played well at first doubles, with their biggest win coming against Stonehill.

The team of sophomores Chris Gutwaks (Springfield, MA) and Kevin Hassett (Pembroke, MA) had some tough matches at second doubles but pulled through with a winning record in the GNAC. Having played numerous three set matches, Gutwaks and Hassett also had winning records at third and fourth singles respectively in the conference.

At fifth singles, sophomore Will Delahanty (Tobyhanna, PA) went unbeaten in the GNAC while compiling a 7-4 record overall. Delahanty was forced to pull through on a couple of occasions and came up with some clutch performances.

The doubles team of freshmen Aaron DiNoto (Webster, NY) and Michaud came on late in the season to take the number two spot and have a record of 3-1. Junior Andy Sheridan (Vernon, CT), also coming of an ankle injury, had a successful season at number six singles with a record of 5-2.

If all goes well this weekend up in Vermont, we may be looking at your first GNAC Men's Tennis Champions of the new Millennium!

Women's Lacrosse Debuts in New Conference

Laura Sturgis, Karan Gilbart and Kristin Kitsalman
Contributing Writers

After two building seasons, this year's women's lacrosse team began the season with an explosive 4-0 start.

Head coach Amy DeBoyace, and tri-captains Megan Delvecchio, Kristin Kitselman, and Danielle Valentet have all aided in leading the team to its most successful season thus far.

With a strong team consisting of 26 players, each individual has displayed their own talent and contributed to the overall success of the team. This year's freshmen have worked hard to improve their skills and have become a large asset throughout the course of the season.

Despite the inexperience of many players, we have risen above many outside expectations.

By defeating two division two teams, Bryant College and AIC in the beginning of the season, the team has gained the confidence needed to perform well in our NEWLA conference. With the aid of our goalie, Kathleen Reed, ranked highest in our division for percentage of saves made, our defensive has performed strong in each game.

Currently we are tied in second place for our conference. Our current conference record is 4-1 with two games remaining in the conference. These upcoming games will determine our position for the NEWLA tournament. This year's women's lacrosse team is hoping for a strong finish and another successful season to follow next year.

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During the non-snow off season the US Womens' Alpine Ski Team members used the "Ski Team" diet to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. That's right - 20 pounds in 14 days! The basis of the diet is chemical food action and was devised by a famous Colorado physician especially for the US Ski Team. Normal energy is maintained (very important) while reducing. You keep "full" - no starvation - because the diet is designed that way. It's a diet that is easy to follow whether you work, travel or stay at home. (For men too!)

This is, honestly, a fantastically succesful diet. If it weren't, the Us Womens' Alpine Ski Team wouldn't be permitted to use it! Right? So, give yourself the same break the US Ski team gets. Lose weight the scientific, proven way. Even if you've tried all the other diets, you owe it to yourself to try the US Womens' Alpine Ski Team Diet. That is, if you really do want to lose 20 pounds in two weeks. Order today! Tear this out as a reminder.

Send only $8.95 - add .. 50 cents RUSH service to: MIDWEST ASSOCIATES, 3318 S. Glenstone, Suite 308, Springfield, MO 65804. Don't order unless you expect to lose 20 pounds in two weeks! Because that's what the Ski Tea Diet will do.

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Lacrosse Playoffs At Stake

Brian Krepcio and Mike Raymond

Contributing Writers

On May 1st, 2000, the Western New England College Golden Bears will do battle with the Babson College Beavers at Western New England College. The game will take place on the football field at 4:00 P.M. No admission will be charged. This is the season and conference finale for both teams heading into the Pilgrim League Championships.

The Golden Bears, currently sporting an overall record of 5-7 and a conference record of 2-1, will be emotionally charged for Senior Day.

W.N.E.C. seniors include three Pittsfield, MA products in Tom Nolan, Nick Evans, and Aaron Garner. Other seniors include Mike Loock (Chatham, NJ), Ben Drude (West Hartford, CT), and Joe Dimambro (Medford, NJ).

Nolan, who was a top scorer for the Golden Bears, will not be playing due to a severely injured knee suffered early in the season.

In his place at the top of the scoring list has been sophomore Bill Locher (Yorktown, NY) with 39 points (30 goals, 9 assists), followed by sophomore Ryan Deane (Wilbraham, MA) with 32 points (22 goals, 10 assists), and sophomore Kevin Savage (West Hartford, CT) with 23 points (14 goals, 9 assists). Other strong contributors include sophomore John Anicito (Long Valley, NJ), with 21 points, and Loock with 18 points.

The Babson Beavers are currently sporting a record of 6 wins and 4 losses (2-1 Pilgrim League). The Beavers leading scorers are Mike Welch (Hingham, MA) with 32 points (25 goals, 7 assists), Chris Darmon (Sandwich, MA) with 27 points (16 goals, 11 assists), and Brad Otis (Winchester, MA) with 21 points (11 goals, 10 assists).

With the Pilgrim League Tournament approaching in early May, several teams are fighting for position. W.N.E.C. and Babson are in the Southeast Division, battling for the second and final playoff spot with M.I.T. and Wheaton. Springfield College has already guaranteed themselves the top spot in the division.

The team that clinches the number two seed will play against the number one seed out of the Northwest Division, most likely Eastern Connecticut State University. The winner of the Pilgrim League Tournament is awarded an automatic bid into the NCAA Division III Tournament later on in May.

For additional information regarding this lacrosse game, please contact the Sports Information Director at Western New England College, Gene Gumbs, at 413-782-1227.

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The Lion King Revisited

Professors. Eugene Angus and Schiller Cesimir

Contributing Writers

For most viewers, the "Lion King" seems like a delightful animated film about a theme common to us all in media entertainment: the triumph of good over evil.

Just as Disney has enthralled youth of past generations, many of our students love the "Lion King", some saying that it is their favorite film.

However, Dr. Tatum has pointed out that the 'evil elements in the film carry racial and ethnic overtones. Two of the characters, hyenas, have voice characterizations by Whoopi Goldberg, speaking black street dialect, and Cheech Marin, who does the same in Hispanic dialect.

Dr. Tatum has said and written that these voice characterizations associated with evil hyenas have the potential to convey stereotypes that are damaging to Black and Hispanic Americans.

She has even said that her own children do not entirely agree with her, so the movie has considerable powers of persuasion, apparently with young people.

Many students here at the College have also questioned Dr. Tatum's interpretation, pointing out, for example, that there are three hyenas in the film, and the third one speaks 'white' English.

Notwithstanding, we have found that there is even more evidence, which augments and reinforces Dr. Tatum's criticism. The film opens with the birth of the lion son, the successor to the lion kingdom.

As he grows, Simba learns from his father that all aspects of the lion kingdom are interrelated. For example, he points out that when he dies and is buried in the earth, antelope will graze on the grass produced by that ground.

But then he looks with his son out over a vast plain and explains that the lion kingdom is all that is bathed in bright light.

By contrast, the son asks about the dark place off in the distance and learns that it is an evil place called the "badlands", beyond and decidedly outside the kingdom.

The son is sharply warned never to go there. This is the territory of the hyenas: and 'elephant graveyard' (a place of death) a "wild place" occupied by "lazy, stupid poachers"(a "poacher" is defined as "one who trespasses").

Nothing grows in this dark place where rude, scheming, uncivilized hyenas roam. At one point in the film, this "wild place" is referred to as a "fixer upper."

We ask, then, what kind of association might this scene generate in the minds of viewers?

One possibility is that it reminds us of a common phrase for Africa, as the "Dark Continent" inhabited by dark people.

Perhaps a more American association comes through in the reference to the hyenas as "poachers" who in an area of "fixer uppers."

Does this not suggest the negative stereotype of Black and Hispanic Americans living in the desolate inner-city regions of our major cities?

In addition, what are we to make of the message conveyed when the evil brother of the Lion King, "Scar", teams up with the hyenas to take over the entire kingdom?

First, we see the hyenas marching in goose-step fashion, an image that evokes associations with the Nazis and Hitler, or, we might think of goose-stepping soldiers under Communism.

Either way, the association is one of evil incarnate, that deepens the malevolent image of the dominant Whoopi and Cheech speaking hyenas.

Moreover, when Scar and his troops take over the kingdom, it is not long before anarchy and food scarcity threatens the kingdom with dissolution.

The "wild place" and all the associations it generates now taken on the characteristics of a contagion.

This threat must be contained, as it was at the beginning of the film, otherwise if it is allowed to progress unchecked, it will take everyone down.

All of these developments in the film coalesce into a collage of stereotypes that many Americans have of Black and Hispanic Americans and the places where they live - not by their own choice.

Large numbers of them live in very poor neighborhoods like Harlem, or South Central LA, neighborhoods where there is crime and into which few white people would venture.

By contrast, the whites, like the lions, live in the sunny' suburbs that are as clean, safe, and ordered to their inhabitants as the light-filled is to its inhabitants.

Finally, as alluded to earlier, some students argue that a third 'white' speaking hyena dissolves Dr. Tatum's argument.

There is a third 'white' hyena that hangs with Whoopi and Cheech, but he is most certainly not an equal partner with them.

He is a follower and for the most part seems oblivious to what is going on. Clearly, the Whoopi and Cheech hyenas are the leaders who dominate him and the story.

Were all these associative stereotypes intentional? This question is not as important as it might seem, because racial and ethnic stereotypes reside largely in our unconscious minds and are often expressed without the conscious knowledge of the expresser.

This is why such stereotypes are so pernicious and why it is so difficult to rid oneself of them - they are largely unconscious.

Often when artists are confronted with objectionable hidden material in their creations they often confess that they had no idea that such a message was imbedded in their works.

Whether intentional or unintentional, if today it is generally accepted that "The Wizard of Oz" carries a subtle message criticizing the capitalist system, is it so out of the question to suspect that the "Lion King" contains racial and ethnic stereotypes?

All students, faculty, and staff are welcome to respond.

GOODBYE Cont.

So, in conclusion, I say that we must keep an eye to our past as we delve into the future. Where we have been will allow us to better understand where we are going.

We are forever linked to this college, and we must continue to measure the success of our lives, at least partly, by the effects that we have had on this institution.

Western New England College's evolution is as much a legacy of us, as our evolution is of it.

"*Mei amici et amicae, vivete vitas gaudii felicitatisque.*"

Thank you.

Craig M Nakashian

Class of 2000

CLASSIFIEDS

Resume Builder
For any Business or Accounting major, your student newspaper is looking for a Business Manager to handle accounting and billing. There is no writing required for this position. Any interested applicants please contact Eric Johnson by stopping by our office in the Campus Center or call us at 782-1580.

Lets start thinking . . .
Student Activities Expo 2000 is coming up. Lets have some original "giveaways" Start thinking now, deadline is May 1, 2000. See Celia or Moe for more information.

WNEK
WNEK will be signing off for the semester on Sunday, May 7, 11pm. Be sure to listen all week as each DJ plays their last show of the semester. Request line is always 782-1586, have a great summer and be sure to tune in next year!

Independent College Admissions Consultant seeks PT/FT counseling/office assistant. Provide and facilitate college application and career counseling to HS students. Schedule appointments, participate in research and marketing activities, data entry and telephone. Candidates with experience in admissions settings preferred. Background in higher ed administration, counseling or teaching a plus. Ability to build community partnerships helpful. Bachelor's degree a must. Ideal for grad student. Day/evening hours. Resume by 5/9 to Director, 94 Shaker Rd., E.Longmeadow, MA, 01028.

Writers Wanted
Interested in becomeing a member of *The Westerner* staff? If so stop by our office durring out Tuesday meetings at 12:30, or call x-1580. A variety of positions are availible. If you have any questions please direct them towards James Russell, editor of *The Westerner*.

Spring Fling
Saturday April 29 join the fun in the Tundra. Powerball, Joust, Giant Obstacle Course, Spin-art Frisbee, M-4 Simulator, Old-Time Photos, Cotton Candy, and more!!! Join in and start this Spring off right!

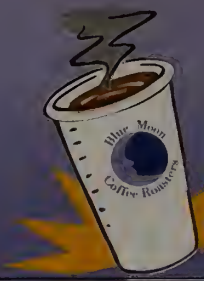
Stageless Players
Join your campus acting group next semester durring Friends and Family Weekend as we present William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. To be preformed over the entire weekend, times and locations to follow.

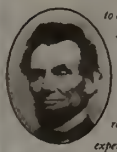
Congratulations
The Westerner would like to congratulate all of the graduating seniors. Good luck in all you do and remember the good times you had a WNEC.

Blue Moon Coffee Roasters

No need to travel to Northampton, gourmet coffee has come to the area. Blue Moon Coffee Roaster is open at 5 Sumner Ave., near White St. Serving Gourmet and flavored coffees, teas, cappuccinos, and baked goods. Now open 'till 10pm Mon-Sat.

Come sit and study, or bring your friends and visit over a Latte.





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– Abraham Lincoln

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THE WESTERNER

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CAMPUS & LOCAL NEWS

Engineers to host Competions

Take Precautions for Winter Driving

David Makovsky Speaks at WNEC

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WHO IS THIS? CONTEST

Can you name these people?

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Congrats Conference Champs

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WNEC RECEIVES $236,500 GRANT

By Dr. Anthony Caprio
President, Western New England College

In October I wrote to you after the College's Office of Development had sponsored a luncheon and discussion for faculty and staff on grant proposal writing.

I indicated in that communication that we are particularly well positioned to be successful in obtaining grant monies given our history, our planning, (Strateic Plan and Facilities Master Plan in place), our steady growth, our growing reputation, our increasing quality, our faculty and staff credentials, and our focus on students.

in that communication I also alluded to my state of the College remarks in September.

I had said then that we must seek new sources of revenue and that foundation and corporate grants are clearly a new source that we must pursue vigorously.

I am so pleased to share with you the good news that the Davis Educational Foundation (led by Peter Davis, who is the son of the founders of the Shaw Supermarket Chain) has fully funded a request by the College, awarding us $236,500.

The funding will, among other things, help us:

-consolidate certain computer resources into D'Amour Library (closing, for example, the open-access computer lab currently located on the third floor of Churchill)

-renovate sections of D'Amour Library to accomodate more educational technology faciilities, including offices for Office of Information Technology staff;

-create Information Technology Learning Clusters throughout D'Amour Library (computers arranged in a variety of ways)

-create a new Educational Technology Learning Center in D'Amour Library (including two new computer classrooms for instruction in the use of technology)

Continued, page 2

Dr Anthony Caprio

U & ME Continue Thanksgiving Tradition

by Jassica Riblaro
Contributing Writer

United and Mutually Equal exudes the true spirit of Thanksgiving.

The group is very involved with volunteering and helping out the community.

One of the groups' traditions/ community service projects took place last week.

On November 20th U&ME members cooked and served a gigantic Thanksgiving meal to the people at the Horizon Home Shelter.

The dinner was served by students to all those who attended.

Two families attended the dinner along with the U&ME volunteers.

The children at the shelter were more than happy entertaining the volunteers and posing for pictures.

The families and U&ME volunteers were both thankful for a wonderful meal and a great experience.

This early Thanksgiving dinner was a huge success with plenty of food to spare.

The volunteers look forward to next year's dinner at the shelter.

WNEC Students at War in Paintball

by Adam Wallington
Staff Writer

On the Saturday morning of November 18th, 37 WNEC students loaded the vans and headed to the battlefield.

The paintball trip, proposed by Dan Wystepek and co-sponsered by three RA's and the Campus Activities Board (CAB), a subcomittee of student senate, left for the New England Paintball facility in Taunton, MA., to test their skills in a sport that was new to many participants.

Students were given paintball guns, extra paintballs, neck guards, and headgear to go out and shoot each other in the converted warehouse paintball facility.

Two types of games were played in the four hours spent at the facility. One was the classic one shot-you're out game, where forts and obstacles like crates, tire piles, and homemade wooden walls that have more than a quarter inch of wet paint on them are utilized as cover in the room, which was a little larger in size than a basketball court.

The team that shot every member of the other team first won the match.

The second game was named speedball and consisted of an all out shoot-em-up between the two teams, who were not allowed to use forts as cover.

The participants had to maneuver through the obstacles, capture the flag, somehow make it to the opposing team's wall, all without being shot once.

"Five confirmed headshots!" and "No Way! I had six!" were not uncommon remarks that were frequently coming from participants in the paintball trip in the staging area after coming from a match.

Some unfortunate people came out of the match with paint in their hair who shrugged it off and went right out for the next game.

Most students were covered in paint from splattering paintballs at the end of the day, smiling because the taste of that paintball that splattered through their facemask finally went away, and they had a whole lot of fun.

The trip was so enjoyed that another is already being planned for the Spring.

WNEC Students at Paintball

Middle East Expert Speaks in Sleith

by Brett Joheneeon
News Editor

David Makovsky spoke at Western New England College on Thursday, November 16 in Sleith 100.

Makovsky, by profession is a journalist, but, by also speaks across the country.

He was here at WNEC to talk about the Middle East Peace Process to students, faculty, and members of the community.

He blamed the Palestinian Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafatfor not going far enough in the peace conferences with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, this past year, overseen by President Clinton.

Talking about the conference at Camp David, Makovsky said, "The younger people on the Palestinian side feel that they want to go through with the deal, but Arafat is holding out.

"Clinton said that Arafat wasn't going far enough.

"While Arafat was going across Europe, all the leaders were saying, they are offering you a good deal. Take it."

He feels that the Palestinians want to get support of the international community, manily the Europeans.

Makovsky, a contributing editor for the US News and World Report and as a special Jerusalem correspondent for the past eleven years, is also the author of the book Making Peace with the PLO in 1996.

When asked by me if the Palestinians have more of a claim to the land, he denied that.

He totally renegged the points that the nation of Palestine was there, and then taken away and given to the Jews by the United Nations, led by the United States after World War II.

He further negated my point that it was hypocritical for the United States to side with the Israelis and then try to negotiate peace fairly and down the middle.

It was asked, "Shouldn't the United States step down from this peace deal we are vainly trying to do because we are prejudiced against the Palestinian people?"

"No not at all. The Muslims get a fair deal in America."

At this point, any objective observer that was not here to hear a certain side knew that Makovsky was partial to his Jewish religion.

Although informative, Makovsky and the predominantly Jewish audience showed total bias for the Israeli "plight" against the Arabs

WNEC Teams Up With Engineering Competition

by Berb Cempenelle
Press Release

The Western New England College School of Engineering will host a Tests of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics, and Science (Teams) competition on Monday, December 18 at Sleith Hall. Area high school students are welcome to compete in the program.

Pre-registration is required by calling the College's School of Engineering Dean Eric Haffner at 413-782-1273.

TEAMS is a dynamic interscholastic competition which helps introduce high school students to the world of engineering.

The TEAMS program allows teams of four to eight high school students to learn team development skills and also participate as a group in an engineering program solving competition.

TEAMS show students how the math and science concepts they are learning in class are applied to "real world" problems, and develop skills used by engineering teams.

Each year, more than 20,000 high school students and coaches participate at over 110 TEAMS sites across the country.

The event is sponsored by the Department of Energy's Office of Industrial Technologies.

The TEAMS exam will give students exposure to various industry areas such as agriculture, aluminum, chemicals, forest products, glass, metal casting, mining, petroleum, and steel.

Top scoring teams in each state will be eligible for national ranking and will be honored at the Department of Energy's Office of Industrial Technologies 4th Industrial Energy Efficiency Symposium and Exposition in Washington, D.C. in February, 2001.

Last year, three local varsity teams, Algonquin Regional High School of Northborough, Blackstone-Milleville Regional High School of Blackstone, and Minnechaug Regional High School of Wilbraham, and one junior varsity entry, SABIS International Charter High School of Springfield, advanced from Western New England College's competition to earn top state rankings.

In October, Western New England College hosted a Western Massachusetts Science League competition for local high school students, the only one of its kind held on a college campus.

Avoid Car Breakdowns; Winterize

Speciel to The Westerner

(NAPS)-It's that time of the year again to winteize your car for safe driving.

The colder it gets, the more suspectible your car is to experiencing a breakdown.

To prevent a dangerous and costly mishap, follow a few simple tips to help keep your vehicle running smooth during harsh winter months.

There are a number of actions one can do on their own.

Check shocks and struts by pushing down with force on the hood; if the car bounces, you may need maintenance.

To avoid repainting costs and to keep your car attractive on the outside, cover nicks and chips with touch-up paint and a coat of wax.

Road salt and winter conditions will rust imperfections on your car.

Even a well-maintained car can get stuck in the snow. Pack an emergency safety kit and keep it in your trunk at all times.

Include a large flashlight with extra batteries, jumper cables, first aid supplies, non-perishable food, blankets, and emergency flares.

The colder the weather gets, the greater the potential for car trouble. Applying that extra attention now before winter starts will alleviate some worries and let you enjoy the season.

President Writes about Grant

-provide release time and stipends for faculty to implement a faculty technology-development program.

The Educational Technology Learning Center will also provide logistical support for *Manhattan,* the on-line classroom software (created by Steve Narmontas of the Office of Information Technology and in use at the College since 1997.)

Concurrently, the College will release *Manhattan* via the Internet for use free of charge by other institutions.

Manhattan will continue to evolve and improve, and other schools' faculty will come to Wesetern New England College to be trained in its use-as will faculty from our four Schools of the College in the process.

This aspect of our project will gain significant visibility for the College and position us nicely as a leader in technology use and education.

The College, of course, had to commit significant financial resources to this overall project to gain the Foundation grant; cost sharing was presented as $236,500 from the Davis Educational Foundation and $495,000 from Western New England College.

The full Board of Trustees of the Foundation visited the College on November 9, 2000 to discuss the proposal. They posed specific and probing questions.

I acknowledge with gratitude the hard and diligent work of the team that developed this proposal: Director of Foundation Relations Jim Rich (who led the team,) Claire Bronson, Allyn Chase, Beverly Dwight, Jerry Hirsch, David Kruger, Steve Narmontas, and May Stack; William Bosworth joined the Trustee interview session. I thank those individuals for their outstanding work and others whom they may have consulted in the process.

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"Christmas Carol" Reading Planned

by Jessica Ribiero
Contributing Writer

Have you ever thought of Professor Coffey as Ebenezer Scrooge?

How about Sue Bruno as the Ghost of Christmas Present? Did you know that Professor Field is a GREAT Jacob Marley?

Do you have any idea what is going on?

See for yourself as the Bear's Den is transported back in time for the 3rd annual reading of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol".

This radio format presentation of this holiday classic is not to be missed!

This radio play will be held on Thursday, December 7, 2000 at 3:30 p.m.

Professor Mark Coffey leads the cast of characters as Ebenezer Scrooge, the tight-fisted, nose to the grindstone, covetous old sinner.

Greg Michael, Director of Career and Human Resources reprises his role for the third year as the narrator, craftily detailing the story.

Professor Larry Field also reprises his role as the spirited and ghostly Jacob Marley.

Maureen Hart Keizer, Assistant Dean of Students for Leadership Development and Professor Al Ingham share their talents as Bob and Mrs. Cratchit.

Want to know who is playing Tiny Tim? You will have to come and see for yourself!

Other faculty and staff who will be participating are: Tom Wozniak, Assistant Dean of Students for Residence Life, Michael Wiersma, Area Coordinator, Professor Marilyn Pelosi, Anita Bannon, Staff Assistant for Alumni Affairs, and Celia Norcross, Assistant Director of Student Activities.

This is one Western New England College holiday tradition not to be missed!

Join in the holiday fun with refreshments and an old tradition.

And, while you are there, you will see your favorite professors and staff members in a wonderful presentation that you will never forget!

Do you enjoy writing? Do you like having your opinions expressed? If so, feel free to join the Westerner staff today! Call 782-1580. Meetings are held on Thursdays at 12:30p.m. in the Campus Center Publications Office.

THE WESTERNER

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Eric Johnson
A & E Editor

Kevin Hassett
Sports Editor

Brett J. Johansson
News Editor

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Katie Rehrmann
Roving Reporter

Celia Norcross
Staff Advisor

Photos This Issue
Athletic Department

The Westerner staff reserves the right to correct articles based on grammar and inappropriate content. The Westerner reserves the right to reject any article, letter, classified ad, or advertisement due to space limitations or content. Questions or comments should be directed to our staff by calling 782-1580.

We thought we here at the Westerner would try something new. Instead of our usual Roving Reporter, we thought we'd hold a contest.

In this contest, you the reader have to identify who the people are in each picture. You also have to name the event, or where they are. If you're correct, your name goes into a drawing for a $40.00 gift certificate to the WNEC Bookstore. The more you have correct, the more chances you have of winning. To play this fabulous little game, all you have to to is to fill out the box with the blank lines. The sooner you fill it in, the more chance you have to win. Just think, if you DO win, you will have $40 off one of next semester's books. Good luck!!!!

WHO IS IT? #1

WHO IS IT? #2

WHO ARE THEY? #3

WHO IS IT? #4

WHO IS IT? #5

WHO ARE THEY? #7

WHO IS IT? #6

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS FILL OUT THE LITTLE BOX! CUT IT OUT AND RETURN THE SECTION TO THE WESTERNER OFFICE ASAP!!! WE ARE LOCATED ON THE 1ST FLOOR OF THE CAMPUS CENTER.

WHO IS IT? #1 _____

WHO IS IT? #2 _____

WHO IS IT? #3 _____

_____

_____

WHO IS IT? #4 _____

WHO IS IT? #5 _____

WHO IS IT? #6 _____

WHO IS IT? #7 _____

_____

An Editor's Christmas Wishes

Has Jack Frost been nipping at your nose lately? If he has, then winter must be on it's way.

And along with the arrival of winter comes the end of the semester.

At last, all of the hard work and papers will be finished.

Of course, with the conclusion of the semester comes the wish list for next semester.

First, I would love to have all of the Westerner staff return. Everyone on thestaff did a wonderful job this entire semester.

There was a ton of work to be done over and over for every issue.

Each staff member came through each time too. I appreciate that very much.

This semester, I was completely new to the position of Edior. I had wrote for the Westerner last semester, but that was all.

I found that I had support from many people telling me that I could do the job.

So, to my wonderful staff, Thank You.

I hope that all of you will return for another filled semester of laughs and article writing.

You all did a magnificant job and I enjoyed working with all of you.

My next wish for the Westerner would be to have an even bigger staff.

There are so many different things that people can write about.

The staff now usually writes about topics that are of interest to them.

You too can join our staff. Next semester is a brand new start.

New faces are always welcome, and as I've said before, we would love to have you!

There is always room for more staff writers.

Just keep this in mind when you are thinking about how you should really join some different clubs and get involved.

I think I can just about speak for everyone when I say, "Please come and write, your mom would be so proud to see your name in print".

In all honesty, it's a great time and we would love to have you.

Another wish that I have for this wonderful newspaper is no stranger to anyone.

For the last three issues, I have all but begged to have readers contribute to the Editoral section, the News section, the Sports, and basically write anything.

I thought that since the Westerner was a publication for the students, then students shoud contribute.

I still believe this theory. Call me a nut, but I belive it whole heartly.

It is my goal to haveat least one different writer per issue next semester.

I really love writing for the Westerner. I always have. It makes me happy.

What does not make me happy is the fact that I have to write four or five articles.

It's not very fun then. Plus, I don't like seeing my name all over the place. I would much rather see students' names from throughout the campus.

I know it's a reach, but I sincerely hope that at least one of you reading this is moved to write a little something.

Please, do it for your favorite editor!

Finally, I wish that everyone has a fabulous break.

We all worked hard this semester, and I'm sure this long break will refresh us for another great semester.

So, i hope that everyone has a safe break with lots of holiday cheer.

And remember, it's never too latestart thinking about writing.

Who knows, maybe you're really good at writing, you just need to try it.

Hope to hear from many of you sometime next semester. Unitl then, Happy Holidays.

by: Jocelyn Jacques

What Might Have Been

Let us glance at the past and the present and think about what might have been if only a few scenarios have been different in the world of politics, sports, and music:

In 1951, the twenty-second amendment to the United States Constitution was passed.

In it, it said that a President is limited to two terms in office. Imagine if that was never passed...

The headlines read on November 8, 2000 "Clinton Wins Third Term; Landslide over G.W.: First Husband-Wife Ticket."

President Clinton ran with his wife Hillary as his Vice-Presidential nominee.

Al Gore put up fight to be the Pres dential nominee, bu was put down by th widely popular Pres dent.

George W. Bus did not put up muc of a fight.

It was a slaughter. Clinton won seventy percent of the popular vote, and all but three states. The President was quoted as saying that he ate meat that was tougher than George W. Bush. Just like in 1992, Clinton ate Bush up.

With her as Vice-President-elect, the state of New York was free of her running for United States Senator.

After her "listening tour" of the state, New Yorkers feared the worst.

They did, however, welcome in new New York Senator, Rick Lazio, who received full support after New York Mayor Rudolph Guliani dropped out of the race in disgrace from faking cancer to rally support.

The 1960 Presidential election was one of the closest elections in history with Massachusetts Senator John Kennedy beating Vice-President Richard Nixon. What would have happened if Nixon won...

President Nixon and Vice-President Henry Cabot Lodge became the two most loved President-Vice-President combination ever. After Nixon's reelection in 1964, Lodge won two terms in '68 and '72.

Meanwhile, at the Kennedy compound, John Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, and Edward Kennedy were so upset with the Republican swing of the nation that they quit politics and went into lobster fishing.

Kennedy Lobster, their company, became the largest seafood company in in the world in only two years.

President Lodge's Vice-President Spiro Agnew, however, was not very popular with the people. In 1973, Agnew was impeached because of corrupt practices in his fundraising and his involvement with the Republican reelection

Continued on p. 7

WNEC Skating On Thin Ice

by Christopher Plourde

The skating rink in front of Western New England College's Plymouth Dormitory complex has finally solidified, after over a month of installation, repairs, filling and refilling, and freezing and refreezing.

Newly constructed skating rink is completed and ready for student use. photo by Bob Labrie

Robert W. Gailey, Associate Vice-President for Administration and Finance, suggested that the rink be built so that the land behind the Emerson Hall parking lot could be made useful to students for recreational purposes.

Until early last year, the area had been a large gulley. During the spring and summer, dirt from the Mass. Mutual building construction site on State Street was poured into the ditch and graded to a level surface, said S. Robert Socha, Director of Physical Plant for WNEC.

The rink's polyethylene frame was constructed in three days, and another three days were necessary in order to fill the rink with water pumped through a fire hydrant in front of Hampden Hall, according to Ed Kenyon, foreman in charge of Buildings and Grounds. Kenyon explained that the rink water freezes only after three days of

(continued on page 7)

(continued from page 1)

temperatures as low as 15 degrees.

After the rink was completed, students were able to use it for only a few hours before leaving for the semester break. During the break, warm weather melted the ice, and vandals ruined the rink's plastic frame. Since then, the rink has been repaired and, thanks to a cold spell beginning in late January, re-iced.

The rink was installed by full time maintenance workers Paul Marszalek, Dick Parent, and Pat Turner, with the help of students on the work study program.

Socha estimated the rink's cost in terms of material and labor to be about $500.

It's time for Way Back WNEC. In this issue, I decided to draw from the archives of many different decades. The article to the left is from a 1980 issue. Where did the ice rink go? The picture to the right is from 1982. I guess somethngs never change! WNEC!!

The College's mascot and initials hang from the inside wall of Mary's Pub as part of the liquor-serving establishment's campaign to make WNEC students its regular customers. (Photo by Cathy Singer).

From page 6

committee for the President, CREEP, who was involved with the Watergat e scandal.

During this time, tensions between North Vietnam (communist) and South Vietnam (capitalist) was rising. The Republican Congress and the Republican President felt it wise to not involve ourselves in a war halfway across the world over a country that nobody in America cared about.

President Lodge appointed Senator Strom Thurmond over almost-obvious choice, Majority Leader Gerald Ford.

Vice-President Thurmond's Presidential election campaign came to an end after he was killed by a pro-Vietnam war protestor.

The '76 election brought late entrant, Republican Ronald Reagan to the White House after Thurmond's assassination.

Rampant rumors of his imcompetence, along with the backing of the Shah of Iran, who slaughtered hundreds of thousands of his countrymen in an unsuccessful revolt led by Islamic fundamentalists led to an election of the first Democrat in the White House since Harry Truman in 1948.

Walter Mondale won the 1980 election. In 1984, he was re-elected. Democratic nominee Michael Dukakis, of Massachusetts is elected President in 1988.

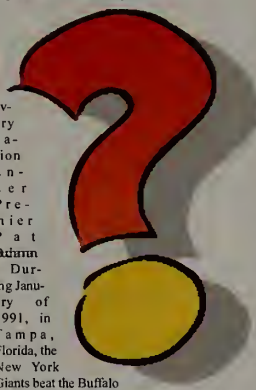
Panic ensues when the stock market crashes late in his term in 1991 and 1992.

Groups of militant radicals overthrow the government and create a new communist government, getting aid from the Soviet government.

The United States of America struggles under the communist regime.

However, with influence from the rest of the communist world, realizes that communism is best.

By 2000, the Union of Socialist American States (USAS) is a thriving nation and the envy of



every nation under Premier Pat Buchanan

During January of 1991, in Tampa, Florida, the New York Giants beat the Buffalo Bills in Super Bowl XXV 20-19.

What if Buffalo kicker Scott Norwood didn't miss a field goal in the closing seconds...

The Buffalo Bills are the only team in history to win six Super Bowls.

After their come from behind win in Super Bowl XXV, their destruction of the Washington Redskins the next year, and the back-to-back wins against the Dallas Cowboys in Super Bowls XXVII and XXVIII, future Hall-of-Fame quarterback Jim Kelly retired.

He said that he had a few more years, but wanted to retire on a high note.

The next year, the Bills had a disappointing 9-7 finish and lost in the first round of the playoffs.

The San Diego Chargers won Super Bowl XXIX against the San Fransico 49ers led by Steve Young.

Young felt it was his time to step out of Joe Montana's shadow and win a Super Bowl.

Young retired in disgrace, never fulfilling this dream, always being known as the "Man who Replaced Joe Montana."

The Chargers win back-to-back Super Bowls against the Dallas Cowboys after trading for aging John Elway who, after being traded said, "I wanted to play for a winner."

The Bills went back to the Super Bowl, after signing Canadian Football League reject Doug Flutie, reach Super Bowl XXXI.

They lose in dramatic fashion, after the Green Bay Packers march down the field and score on the final play of the game.

They release Flutie, who has never been heard from again.

The Bills sign Jeff George who lead them to a fifth Super Bowl title against the Packers the next year. The Packers are sold to a multi-national corporation who move them to Baltimore in the middle of the night to become the Baltimore Ravens.

The next day, Cleveland Browns owner Art Modell finally gets a stadium in Cleveland, after threats of moving only two years later.

The Bills lose in the AFC Championship against the suprise New York Jets.

The Jets win Super Bowl XXXIII, thirty years after winning their only other Super Bowl, beating Baltimore 16-7.

Public support cries out for a new Packers team in Green Bay. League officials feel, though, the city is too small and couldn't support a new team.

The Bills win their sixth Super Bowl, beating the upstart New Orleans Saints, who picked up suprise quarterback Kurt Warner as a backup.

Warner breaks many records after starter Billy Joe Hobert goes down during the preseason.

Warner is never is heard from again after Hobert returns.

The Bills are unanimously declared team of the decade.

Miami Dolphin quarterback Dan Marino retires, not winning a Super Bowl.

In the late 1980's, Milli Vanilli was one of the hottest groups in America.

They even won a Grammy for Best New Artist. Then, well, you know...

After their successful debut album, Milli Vanilli released three more albums that became increasingly popular.

By 1996, Milli Vanilli had sold a total of 984 million albums each.

They had a total of 23 Grammys and motion picture movie that was both a box office success and critical thriller called "Girl, You Know Its True."

They won four Oscars, including Fabrice Morvan's Best Actor and Picture of the Year.

Tensions made Rob and Fab break up in 1998 after a bitter dispute about who would sing lead vocals one of their new songs.

Rob Platius formed a new band called Tails, while Fabrice married Cyndi Lauper.

The two formed the Plastic Lauper Band.

Rumors spread of the two getting back together in the late 90's, but those rumors were halted on October 23, 1998, when Rob was shot and killed outside his New York apartment.

Rolling Stone Magazine, Newsweek, Time, USA Today, NBC News, ABC News, CBS News, and Nickelodeon named Milli Vanilli entertainers of the century.

They still remain widely popular, everyone has a favorite song.

They can still tell you when and where they heard it the first time.

Fabrice has recently released all twenty-seven of Milli Vanilli's number one hits, and is now touring the world, singing classic and Fab tunes.

by:Brett Johansson

The picture that is below is from a 1967 issue of the Westerner. I couuldn't get over how little the campus looked. Where's Sleith? And D'Amour? How about Windham? Oh, and there's one more, Franklin Hall seems to be missing as well. Also, Plymouth seems to be MIA.

It's interesting to see that only a few decades ago, our school was only a few buildings. There was also a missing Health Center that we all know and love. Rivers Gym was non-existance.

1. East Building, 2. Administration Building, 3. Library, 4. West Building, 5. Dorm (Hampden Hall), 6. Campus Center 7. New Wing, 8. Dorm (Berkshire Hall)

Weekly Horoscope

Kata Lawler
Staff Writer

ARIES (March 20-April 18): There is indication of new beginnings and fresh ideas. The storm clouds in the background that are making way for sunshine encourage you to prepare for a fresh start, as there is now calm after the storm.

If a relationship is in question, there is indication of a fresh start to an emotional situation. You must determine if it is someone new coming onto the scene or if you are merely looking at an old relationship from a new point of view.

If work is in question, there is indication of new opportunities to either branch out or begin something new.

TAURUS (April 19-May 19): You are very fond of home comforts and life's little luxuries. Everything looks rosy in the garden, so any home or property improvements are well aspected now and are a good investment in the long term.

Security is of utmost importance; this card indicates not only financial security but also emotional security.

GEMINI (May 20-June 19): Differences of opinion give rise to misunderstandings and fallouts.

Silly, trivial matters are blown out of proportion. Be attuned to discord and conflict.

You may be working in a backstabbing environment where you must keep your wits about you in order to survive. This hostile situation is not good for you.

CANCER (June 20-July 21): A negative situation has recently occured.

You must try to accept the things that cannot change and learn to make the most of you have got in order to get over this feeling of defeat as quickly as possible.

You are over the worst now, and must face the future. There is a feeling of being stabbed in the back or badly let down. At least this situation is now coming to an end.

LEO (July 22-August 21): There will be a time of reflection. This may come as a period of study or learning in order to better yourself and improve your quality of life. You should meditate, or perhaps enroll in enlightening courses, or seek advice and direction from a learned source.

Maybe it is time to sit down with a good book so that you may become enlightened by inspirational literature.

A period of solitude is now upon you, so use it wisely as life is too short to waste time.

VIRGO (August 22-September 21): There is victory over problems that you have been facing recently, signifying the end to a difficult phase.

You will have to determine if it is victory over a personal problem, or if you are severing ties with someone in order to let new beginnings occur.

If you are questioning finances, there may be a change of job or a financial income coming to an end.

LIBRA (September 22-October 21): There may be a strong-minded fire sign type who may literally rush into your life and sweep you off your feet.

He or she is not a conformist; they prefer to do their own thing, with a devil-may-care attitude toward life.

This may also represent you, taking on a new perspective. There may also be travel of some sort in the near future. Perhaps even a change of residence.

SCORPIO (October 22-November 21): You may be well advised to consider whether you are making a judgement on a situation in your life, or if someone is making a judgment on you.

This could pertain to dealings with authority figures, members of a council, or pending legal matters.

The good news is, if such matters do pertain to you, the outcome will be successful and fair. Adopt a fair and merciful attitude toward the situation at hand, avoiding the temptation to be one-sided or concieted about what you percieve to be fair.

It is important to maintain a clear perspective.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 20): You need to be prepared for a shake up in your life.

You need to determine in which area of your life the upset will take place. An unexpected turn of events could lead to more money or a better position at work.

However, the shake up could also concern relationships.

CAPRICORN (December 21-January 19): There is a young person, male or female, under the age of 25, in your life.

This person has all the qualities of an air sign: quick thinking, witty, clever, and creative.

This may be a secret admirer, you should be able to determine whether or not it is. If this is not a person in your life, there is indication that these qualities need to be brought out in your own character.

You may need some constructive criticism to help gain a clear perspective for the future. Facing the truth will not do you any harm.

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18): There has been or will be a victory. In spite of opposition, you have the ability to perservere, winning in the end.

You are a survivor, struggling on in the face of adversity, drawing on your inner strength to finally pull through.

Always keep in mind that when times are hard, if we just hang in there we will win in the end.

PISCES (February 19-March 19): You must go full steam ahead into the project that you are contemplating now.

You have the strength and ability to succeed even though the path may seem bumpy at times.

Triumph will reign in the end, but goals must be realized first without wasting valuable energy by pulling in several directions at once.

All energies must be directed toward attaining your goal.

Was That Rudolph I Heard?

Jocelyn Jecques
Editor

Don't look now, but the holidays are upon us. Before you know it, all of the hustle and bustle will be in full force.

Whether you celebrate Hanaukah, Kwansa, or one of the other festive and time honored holidays, the spirit of the season has crept into the air.

I celebrate Christmas. And it was my most favorite time of year. Every year, I would try to cheat on my Advent calender.

I would accidently on purpose open the wrong day and that way I could read ahead on the story. I know what you're thinking, "She's really a winner!"

Laugh if you must, but it's the thruth. I don't know why I loved hat so much, but I did.

I remember the excitement I used to get for the day. I would make sure I was on my best behavior at school and at home and I would do everything the best I could so that Santa would know I was a good girl.

I totally fell for the whole "He knows if you've been bad or good, so be good for goodness sake" stuff.

Completely fell for it. Hook, line, and sinker. It's embarrising now, but then I knew the consequences.

Coal in your stocking. What a mess that would have made. Of course I wouldn't want coal.

Have you ever tried to get coal out of your stocking. It looks as though it would stain pretty bad.

I never remember writing to Santa, but I'm sure at some point I did and my Mom probably has it hidden in that little box Mommies always have of

your work.

I just used to write my Christmas List and my mom told me that she used to tell Santa what I really wanted.

Mom's had a connection with the Big man himself. Oh yah, first name basis even. So, I would meticulously write out my list. Everything was in categories.

I would have clothes, toys, and miscalaneous. My mom would pick out what she thought Santa would want to get me.

She was usually pretty good at that too. I never put two and two together either. Funny.

I was also real gullible when it came time for going to bed early. If I wasn't in bed, my mom would tell me. "Jocelyn, you have to go to bed.

How else will Santa come?" I fell for it too. I would always go straight to bed.

That is of course after chosing the best cookies from my moms big cookie tin.

She'd always have at least ten different cookies to choose from, she'd help me pick out which one's Santa liked best.

She always knew which cookies Santa loved. I also used to leave some milk, and a bowl of water for Rudolph.

Hey, he was a busy guy too. And Rudolf always got a nice carrot too. He deserved one. I then would go off to bed.

Try as I might, I could never hear Santa and those bells that he supposedly had draped all across his sleigh.

I would lay in bed and try so hard to listen. Instead I used to hear nothing. And it was pretty dull. I would wake up in the morning with my sister and run into the kitchen.

I always had to check to

(Continued on pg 9)

No need to travel to Northampton, gourmet coffee has come to the area. Blue Moon Coffee Roaster is open at 5 Sumner Ave., near White St. Serving Gourmet and flavored coffees, teas, cappuccinos, and backed goods.

Now open 'till pm Mon-Sat.

Come sit and study, or bring your friends and visit over a Latte.

Deer Me Rudolph

(Continued on pg 9)

make sure that Santa did eat the cookies I left him. They were always gone of course.

I always thought it was odd however,that the glass the milk was in was washed out in the kitchen sink.

Funny, he knew my mom liked the glasses rinsed after milk. I would also check to see if Rudolph had eaten his carrot.

The water was usually spilled a little. Must have been from Santa putting it back on the counter.

The carrot always had little shavings off it. It kind of looked like the carrot after my mom made a salad. Weird.

I never ever caught onto my mom either. You'd think that with all of the similarities between my mom and the infamous "Santa Claus" I would have figured it all out.

I was pretty sly back then, it was strange that I didn't pick up on the clues sooner. I guess that's the fun part of Christmas, at least for me anyway.

Santa Claus will always exist in my house. My mom still writes "From Santa" on some of my presents.

I guess somethings never go. I wish all of you a very Merry Holiday season.

Have a great break everyone!

Westerner Word Search

A	N	A	T	W	C	W	A	Q	R	G	C	H	W	R
Y	G	W	N	J	B	D	R	F	E	N	F	R	E	A
X	I	E	E	F	A	T	F	F	P	I	Z	Z	S	J
W	S	E	M	S	Y	A	U	T	A	F	Z	E	T	O
R	E	K	N	P	T	S	X	G	P	O	R	O	E	U
I	D	N	I	S	D	H	F	S	S	O	U	C	R	R
T	D	N	A	W	C	D	G	G	W	R	W	D	N	N
E	G	S	T	R	O	P	S	I	E	P	H	K	E	A
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S	A	G	E	A	R	T	S	O	K	E	N	R	N	I
G	K	H	T	L	A	Y	O	U	T	S	T	E	D	S
A	J	T	N	E	Z	H	U	G	W	I	G	A	W	T
C	J	D	E	A	D	L	I	N	E	S	D	N	L	S
P	A	T	H	L	E	T	E	O	F	T	H	E	I	D
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ARTS
DESIGN
ENTERTAINMENT
LAYOUTS
PROOFING
SPORTS
WEEK
ATHLETEOFTHE
EDITOR
JOURNALISTS
NEWS
REPORTER
STAFF
WESTERNER
DEADLINES
EDITORIALS
LATENIGHTS
NEWSPAPER
ROVINGREPOI
TYPING
WRITERS

H & H Movie Corner

How the Grinch Stole Christmas - Not Just For Kids Anymore

Shelly Hanson
Staff Writer

Oh where to begin! For starters let me tell you that in order to enjoy this movie you have to be a kid at heart.

You have to appreciate the childhood story by Dr. Seuss to get even remote enjoyment out of this soon-to-be holiday classic.

Everyone knows the story of the Grinch who lived on top of a mountain above Whoville.

He came down one Christmas Eve and stole all the presents and decorations from the families in Whoville only to break down into a softie because of the love of one special Whoville citizen: Cindy Lou-who. It's a story that won't soon be forgotten.

With the movie version, a whole new generation can enjoy it. The Grinch, played by Jim Carrey, is masterfully played.

The added touches of smirks and a snide laugh make the Grinch come alive before your eyes.

This movie is probably Carrey's best performance to date. He brings the Grinch's evilness to a whole new level and puts a twist on the character with his trademark humor.

If you're a Jim Carrey fan, this is a must see.

A big surprise to me was to find that Anthony Hopkins narrates the movie.

He has one of those soothing voices that you can listen to for hours- or at least I can. He was an added bonus indeed!

Another surprise was that the movie incorporated pictures from the original storybook.

For the generation who grew up reading this book and watching the animated version every Christmas on television, this should invoke some pretty good memories.

Probably the best thing about the movie is that it took the traditional story and mixed it with modern humor.

Nothing bothers me more than to see a classic story be hacked to death by directors and producers who want to give it modern flare.

Messing with How the Grinch Stole Christmas would be like making Dorothy from The Wizard of Oz a career woman.

It would just kill the story. As I was saying, the movie is kept in its original format.

Even some of the lines were the same as from the book. Of course, the rhyming was incorporated.

A Dr. Seuss movie just wouldn't be the same without the rhyming.

If you feel like some early Christmas cheer, reliving happy childhood memories, and a good laugh,

How the Grinch Stole Christmas is definitely worth your money.

WNEC Swim Team Strives For Excellence

Adam Wallington
Staff Writer

The feelings of strength and determination flowed through the air as I watched the swimmers swim lap after lap in the pool.

The Western New England College women's swim team has been working hard to achieve new goals and keep an edge on the competition.

Their typical workout, led by Coach Ben Bump and assistant coach Andrea Daley consists of approximately 250 to 300 laps (about three to four miles) every day, either at 6:30 in the morning or in the afternoon.

The team also trains out of the pool with athletic trainers Charles Weinmann and Kim O'Leary. Sophomore Kate Kennedy, the only diver on the team, practices at Springfield College.

I had the opportunity to interview Coach Bump, and also Freshman Victoria Tartavoulle and Sophomore Jessica Fasulo to find out more about the team.

Head coach Ben Bump sets the team's goal at breaking at least five school records a season, if not more.

So far this year, one record has already been set. Another goal for the team is to have a winning season.

The WNEC swim team was ranked among the top teams for being most improved last season, and is catching up on the GNAC teams in their conference with a hard work ethic and a bunch of smiles.

The roster has increased from ten swimmers last year to a total of sixteen this season. Only one swimmer was lost to graduation, and all but two swimmers came back from last season.

The team opened the season taking second place in the Saint Joseph Invitational meet, held in West Hartford, Connecticut.

Lynn Schneeweis, Suzanne Monahan, Meaghan Phair, and Colleen Hart missed the school record by just a half of a second in the 800-yard freestyle event with a time of 9 minutes and 22.25 seconds.

Also taking first place was the butterfly team, consisting of Monahan, Hart, and Junior Kayla Zweben with a time of 3 minutes and 39.68 seconds.

When the season ends in mid-February, the team will be heading off for a week of training in Florida, where more hard work will pay off for the next season of competition.

The WNEC Women's swim team is one of the most determined and talented sports teams at WNEC.

Watching them practice, there is is not a moment that each and every one in the pool is not putting 110 percent of effort into their training.

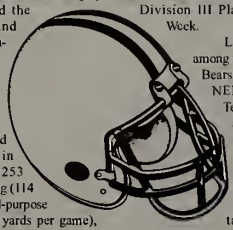
The future holds much promise for this talented and determined team of swimmers.

Women's swim coach Ben Bump

Langley Earns Yet Another Prestigious Accolade

Western New England College junior tailback Marvin Langley added another honor to his collection Monday when he was named to the 2000 New England Football Writers Division II/III All-Star Team.

Earlier this month, Langley was selected the New England Football Conference (NEFC) Co-Offensive Player-of-the-Year.



Langley led the NEFC in rushing (1,253 yards), scoring (114 points) and all-purpose yards (193.9 yards per game), and was seventh in total offense (141.9).

He set or tied 12 school records this fall, including yards rushing in a game (296 vs Framingham State) and touchdowns in a season (19).

Langley averaged 139.2 yards rushing per game this season, which was second among New England Division III running backs.

Having racked up 2,307 yards so far during his career, Langley is currently in third place on the all-time school rushing list.

Langley also was the recipient of two Coca-Cola Gold Helmet Awards as the New England Division III Player-of-the-Week.

Langley was among three Golden Bears named to the NEFC All-Star Team, earning a spot on the All-Conference first squad with senior offensive tackle Dave Roach.

Senior linebacker Ryan Watson was a second team All-Conference selection.

Western New England posted a 4-5 record this fall after compiling a 3-7 mark last year. The Golden Bears lost three games by a total of 10 points and finished fifth in the NEFC Boyd Division with a 2-4 record.

Athletes of the Week

Week of 11/14

Kayla Zweben
Junior
Swimming

Shawn Haubner
Sophomore
Ice Hockey

Hockey Wins Curry Tournament

Eric Hanusak
Staff Writer

The 2000 WNEC ice hockey season started off a success, as the team won the Inaugural Curry Coca-Cola Classic Tournament.

The team wrapped up the victory with a 5-4 win over Suffolk University on November 11 and a 4-3 win over Nichols College on November 12.

Being named the tournament's Most Valuable Player was Sophomore left wing Shawn Haubner.

Haubner posted 3 goals and an assist in the two contests, with three of those against Nichols.

Seniors Eric Badeau (defenseman) and Dave McKenna (forward) were named to the All-Tournament Team.

McKenna was instrumental in the Suffolk victory, as he tallied two goals and an assist.

Also providing strong performances were Kyle Weise, who scored 2 goals and an assist against Suffolk, and goaltenders Shaun Burke, who made 19 saves to defeat Suffolk, and Mike Newall, who recorded 27 saves against Nichols to win his first collegiate game.

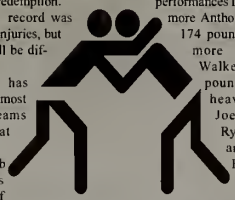
After dropping the opening game of the season to The Wentworth Institute of Technology, the team went on to win its next 4 games, giving the team a positive start and something to build off of.

Wrestling Looks To Capture Past Glory

Eric Hanusek
Staff Writer

Coming off the first losing season in school history in last year, this year's WNEC wrestling team is looking for redemption.

The 9-19-1 record was largely due to injuries, but this season will be different.



Wrestling has been one of the most successful teams historically at this school.

Coach Bob Skelton has seen many of his wrestlers win All-New England and All-American honors over the years.

He has even seen one of his former wresters, Rodney Smith, go on to compete in the Olympic Games.

Smith took home the bronze in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain.

Leading the team this year are co-captains Senior Craig Rand and Junior Jason LaPaglia.

LaPaglia missed last season with an injury but is looking to make a strong comeback.

The team also expects strong performances from sophomore Anthony Sala, at 174 pounds, sophomore Derek Walker, 184 pounds, and heavyweights Joe Walsch, Ryan Warme, and Marc Boorshtein.

This season started off with the Ithaca Invitational, on November 11, where the team placed 17th. On November 18, the team managed a 13th place at the Doug Parker Invitational.

The team's first home match will be on December 9, against Plymouth State, Roger Williams, and Southern Maine, at 11:00 a.m.

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